

Mexico Races To Tap Its International Credit Line

Weakening Peso Saps Investors' Confidence After Corporate Default

By Lawrence Malkin and Alan Friedman
International Herald Tribune

Alarmed at the prospect of renewed financial panic, Mexico announced Thursday that it would tap its emergency international rescue package for the first time, while U.S. and Mexican officials sought to reassure international investors that the situation was under control.

The government in Mexico City said that it would begin activating the \$53 billion rescue package next week to redeem \$2 billion worth of its dollar-linked Treasury bonds. It did so even before completing the formalities on the \$20 billion U.S. portion of the global bailout.

U.S. officials in Washington acknowledged that the redemption offer was part of an effort to restore confidence in world financial markets.

Officials said, meanwhile, that the U.S. Treasury was making "good progress" in talks aimed at freeing up the \$20 billion American portion of the \$53 billion international rescue package. The other components include \$17.8 billion of funds from the International Monetary Fund and \$10 billion of loans from the world's leading central banks.

Robert Rubin, the U.S. Treasury secretary, was meeting his Mexican counterpart, Guillermo Ortiz, on Thursday in an effort to reach agreement on the details of the rescue plan, which was unveiled on Jan. 31 by President Bill Clinton.

"We are continuing to make good progress with the Mexican authorities in working out the arrangements to implement the previously announced \$20 billion medium-term support package," a Treasury official said.

The decision by Mexico to draw on IMF and U.S. Treasury credit lines to redeem tesobonos, or dollar-linked Treasury bonds, followed high-level consultations with U.S. government officials Wednesday night. These consultations came just hours after a default on \$19.5 million of payments on commercial paper by Grupo Sider SA, a private Mexican company.

The Sider default — and the prospect of

See PESO, Page 10

Dollar Falls, Stocks Rise

The dollar fell Thursday in what analysts said was a fundamental reassessment of the currency. Exposure to Mexico's financial crisis and the belief that the U.S. central bank will not raise interest rates much further contributed to the dollar's decline (Page 11). Meanwhile, the Dow Jones industrial average edged up at the final bell to give U.S. stocks their second record close in a row (Page 13).



Themba Masuku, left, of Swaziland and Alain Juppé, of France, speaking at their news conference on development aid problems in Brussels on Thursday.

EU's Aid to Third World Suddenly in Question

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The European Union abruptly canceled a meeting with the 70 ACP nations of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific on Thursday after negotiations to determine an aid package collapsed.

The move underscored Europe's lessening interest in its poor former colonies while faced with more immediate security needs and economic opportunities in Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean region.

The falling-out over aid also exposed a widening gap in the external priorities of the 15 EU member states. France, the traditional EU advocate for the so-called ACP countries, has pushed strongly to at least increase aid to keep pace with inflation, but Britain has insisted on slashing its contribution by one-third while Germany claims it can afford merely to keep spending steady in nominal terms.

Alain Juppé, the French foreign minister, who called off the meeting rather than make what he considered an insulting aid offer, said the unwillingness to keep up support for the Union's flagship foreign aid program posed a fundamental threat to efforts to develop a common foreign policy.

"There is no more European Union if we follow that logic," he said. Mr. Juppé pledged to redouble efforts to increase the EU aid offer by mid-April in order to sign a new trade and aid accord with the ACP countries in May. For the ACP group, which includes many of the globe's most impoverished countries and which has seen aid from

the United States and other sources dry up, the failure to win a commitment from their biggest donor was a severe blow.

"Everyone is talking about market reforms and democratization," said Themba Masuku, the Swaziland economy minister who led the ACP bloc, "but just when we start to put in place a framework, we are left in the middle of the ocean without the resources to support the process we've embarked on."

In effect, the poor countries have been downgraded by Europe in the face of competition closer to home. The ACP countries received the lion's share of EU foreign aid in the early 1980s, but that dropped to 40 percent in 1993 and EU leaders since have committed themselves to big increases for Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean.

The Union countries are just coming out of recession, and the budgets are going down to meet the deficit criteria for a single EU currency, said Hans-Friedrich von Pötz, state secretary for European affairs at Germany's Foreign Ministry.

France, which holds the rotating EU presidency and initially sought a sizable real increase in aid, pushed at an EU meeting Wednesday for a compromise of 13.3 billion European Currency Units (\$16.7 billion) for 1995 to 1999. That would be unchanged after inflation from the 10.9 billion ECU spent in the previous five years. Still, the French came up 1.5 billion ECU short.

The biggest problem was Britain, which said it planned to slash its contribution to 1.2 billion ECU from more than 1.7 billion.

The Unbeatable Balladur? Suddenly, It's Not So Sure

By Joseph Fitchett
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — For the first time, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's regal progress to the presidency has started to seem less than inevitable.

Mr. Balladur remains the overwhelming favorite to win in the April and May elections. But in one of those moments that can seem to last forever in politics, his lead has suddenly started melting in the polls. That downturn is liable to accelerate after some mishaps that pointed to his potential vulnerabilities.

Mr. Balladur has positioned himself as a paternal figure, above the fray, but now

French voters can hope that he will be forced into the arena and tackle his opponents instead of ignoring them. That would break the frozen political landscape that has been dominated by the assumption that Mr. Balladur has an unbeatable lead.

NEWS ANALYSIS

The most intriguing possibility, French analysts said Thursday, is that the weakening of support for Mr. Balladur could revitalize the campaign of his main conservative rival, Jacques Chirac.

The leftist candidate, Lionel Jospin, faces the daunting problem of surmounting the unpopular legacy of 14 years of

mainly Socialist governance. Although Mr. Jospin has surged in the polls, he must contend with an unfavorable political climate in which two-thirds of French voters describe themselves as conservative.

The prime minister had been proceeding calmly to the nation's top job, but then questions about his lack on the vote emerged suddenly as his campaign image turned out to have problems, exposing him to resentment about the French government in general.

Even though he has run the government for only two years, in that time he has often had to compromise with François Mitterrand, the Socialist president elected 14 years ago, and Mr. Balladur is now beginning to be seen by some voters as lacking a vision of how France could make a new start.

These doubts have been reinforced by a series of events that raised questions about Mr. Balladur's nerve and even his general unquestioned integrity.

In the space of a few days, he caved in to student demonstrators in an episode that recalled previous retreats in the face of social tensions and highlighted his potential problems with young voters. He failed to dispel questions about a substantial monthly salary he received between 1988 and 1993 from a company whose privatization he facilitated when in

See FRANCE, Page 10



GRAF'S HAPPY RETURNS — Steffi Graf returning a shot to Martina Hingis in a Paris Open match Thursday. Graf won, 6-2, 6-3. Page 19.

Iraq Is Restoring Mosques, But at What Cost to Shiites?

By John Lancaster
Washington Post Service

KARBALA, Iraq — This ancient city near the Euphrates River seems a strange setting for a tourist boom.

Its downtown was gutted during fighting between government troops and Shiite Muslim rebels in 1991. Because of a ban on airline service to Iraq, foreign visitors must drive here from Jordan or Iran. The journey can take days.

Nonetheless, Karbala these days is enjoying a modest influx of visitors from India, Lebanon, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen, even Canada. Mostly middle-aged or elderly people on a once-in-a-lifetime journey, they arrive in grimy tour buses or overloaded passenger vehicles, putting up in Spartan hotels for as little as 75 cents a night.

They are religious pilgrims. They come to pray beneath the dazzling gold-leaf domes and minarets of the Hussein and Abbas mosques, shrines to the Prophet Mohammed's two grandsons and among the holiest sites in the branch of Islam known as Shiism.

Saddam Hussein's regime is eager to

showcase the bustling shrines at Karbala and nearby An Najaf, offering them as evidence of its success in stamping out the remnants of the brief, bloody Shiite rebellion that followed the Gulf War.

Shiite Muslims, who also dominate in neighboring Iran, constitute Iraq's largest religious group; Mr. Saddam is a Sunni Muslim, and most of his top lieutenants are Sunni or Christian.

But, as with everything in Iraq, the story is a bit more complicated than officialdom lets on.

Government-sponsored tours of Karbala, which is 97 kilometers (60 miles) southwest of Baghdad, and Basra, which is 452 kilometers (280 miles) southeast, revealed nothing to contradict statements in Baghdad that Mr. Saddam's forces are largely in control.

But the appearance of calm has been achieved at enormous cost to Iraqi Shiites and their heritage, according to exiled Shiites and reports by UN human rights monitors in Iraq.

They accuse the government of deporting and even murdering Shiite clerics in a continuing quest to gain control of religion in Iraq.

See IRAQ, Page 10

Yeltsin Backs Chechen War But Admits To Problems

In Parliament Speech, Russian Leader Seems Steady, Though Stolid

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — In his first major speech since he ordered Russian troops into Chechnya, President Boris N. Yeltsin on Wednesday defended the invasion before Parliament.

But he acknowledged that change in the military had gone too slowly and that the army leadership was "unprepared." That was why, he said, there have been such heavy casualties and violations of human rights among civilians.

Still, Mr. Yeltsin named no names, dismissed no commanders for their "failures, setbacks and mistakes in command" and said he would draw on "rational judgments." His aides said he would deliver another address about the military, perhaps in two months' time.

Nor, as many Western diplomats hoped, did Mr. Yeltsin make any offers of political negotiations to the leaders of Chechnya, where a 48-hour truce appears to be holding.

"The flames of an armed mutiny have not yet been put out in the Chechen republic and Russian soldiers fulfill their duty in extremely difficult conditions," Mr. Yeltsin said, asking deputies to stand to "honor the memory of our dead fellow countrymen."

In his second annual state of the nation address, televised nationwide on Thursday morning, Mr. Yeltsin ran through Russia's many difficulties in a steady monotone. At a moment of questions about his health and fondness for alcohol, Mr. Yeltsin, 64, strode deliberately but steadily to and from the Kremlin podium.

But there was little spontaneity in his hourlong address, and he rarely raised his eyes from his text. His speech, which was coolly received by deputies and uninterupted by any applause, had many exhortations but little new policy.

Despite his plummeting popularity, Mr. Yeltsin did commit himself to holding elections on time as mandated in the constitution, with parliamentary elections scheduled for this December and a presidential vote in June 1996.

But if Mr. Yeltsin's intention was to renew support for him in Parliament, the speech was no great success. It had been written by a circle of liberal Yeltsin advisers but then edited by conservatives, and the ambivalence was clear.

Mr. Yeltsin recommitted himself to moves to a market economy and lower inflation, because Russians and Western agencies like the International Monetary Fund "expect this from us," not least as the price of a vital \$6.25 billion loan.

But Mr. Yeltsin also promised more

See YELTSIN, Page 10

AGENDA

House Votes to Curb Role in UN

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite strong opposition from President Bill Clinton, the Republican-controlled House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a bill Thursday that would cut back U.S. participation in United Nations peacekeeping and support early expansion of NATO.

A counterpart bill now must be considered in the Senate, where one has yet to be proposed. President Clinton has made it clear that he almost certainly would veto the measure if it passed the Senate in the form passed by the House.

A plan to slash foreign spending, Page 2.

U.S. Opens Inquiry of Commerce Secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has opened a preliminary criminal investigation of Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown's personal financial dealings.

The decision, announced Thursday by Attorney General Janet Reno, means the department has found specific and credible allegations that Mr. Brown may have committed a felony.

PAGE TWO

Affirmative Action on Trial

EUROPE

Italy Checks a Mafia Link

Page 4.

THE AMERICAS

3 Presidents Loose on the Links

INTERNATIONAL

Israel Relaxes Border Policy

Page 10.

ASIA

UN Says Afghan Chief to Quit

BUSINESS/FINANCE

The Other Saatchi Leaves

Page 11.

Editorial Page 6, 7. Sports Pages 19. Books Page 7. Crossword Page 19.

Women and Men DO Think Differently, Science Says

By Gina Kolata
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Using a powerful new method for glimpsing the brain in action, researchers have found the first definitive evidence that men and women use their brains differently.

The investigators, who were seeking the basis of reading disorders, asked what areas of the brain were used by readers in the first step in the process of sounding out words. To their astonishment, they discovered that men use a minute area in the left side of the brain while women use areas in both sides.

Dr. Sally E. Shaywitz, a behavioral scientist at the Yale University School of Medicine who was a principal author of the study, said that as far as she knew, this was the first time that anyone had been able to demonstrate anything "functionally different" between the brains of men and women.

The new findings follow on a rich body of research looking for sexual differences in the brain. Psychologists have found that women do better on certain tests, like those measuring verbal speed, and that men do better on other tasks, like imagining what an object would look like if it were rotated.

Neurologists have found that women seem to recover better from strokes in the left hemisphere, where language abilities are thought to be situated. Autopsy studies have shown that male brains are more asymmetrical than female brains.

But these previous studies were indirect. The psychological studies could not prove

that it was nature, not nurture, that elicited the differences. The anatomical studies could not show what the actual effects of the brain differences were.

But the new study showed actual differences in the parts of the brain used when men and women were thinking, and coming up with the same answers.

Dr. Shaywitz said the finding meant that "the brain is a lot more complicated than people envisioned." But it does not say

See BRAIN, Page 10

Newsstand Prices

Andorra.....9.00 FF	Luxembourg.....60 L. Fr
Antilles.....1.120 FF	Morocco.....12 Dh
Cameroun 1.400 CFA	Qatar.....8.00 Riels
Egypt.....E.P. 5000	Réunion.....11.20 FF
France.....9.00 FF	Saudi Arabia.....9.00 R.
Gabon.....960 CFA	Senegal.....225 PTAS
Greece.....350 Dr.	Spain.....1.000 Din
Italy.....2.600 Lire	Turkey.....T.L. 45,000
Ivory Coast 1120 CFA	Turkey.....T.L. 45,000
Jordan.....1 JD	U.A.E.....8.50 Dirh
Lebanon.....US\$ 1.50	U.S. Mail (Eur.)...\$1.10

Dow Jones

Up 1.35	Down 0.07%
3987.52	109.95
The Dollar	Thurs. close
DM	1.489
DM	1.5095
Pound	1.5785
Pound	1.561
Yen	97.405
Yen	98.35
FF	5.175
FF	5.2385

ASIA

Chinese Gambit: Seizing Spratly Reef Without a Fight

By Michael Richardson
International Herald Tribune

SINGAPORE — By occupying another of the atolls and reefs in the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea recently, Beijing evidently calculated that it can expand its presence in an area it regards as strategically important without provoking a military clash with neighboring states.

At the same time, China has exposed weaknesses in the diplomatic defenses of the United States and countries in Southeast Asia that are reluctant to confront Beijing for fear of making it more assertive, analysts say.

The Philippines, the country immediately challenged by the Chinese action, sent reinforcements Thursday into the trouble zone — but in doing so underlined its military impotence against a regional power of China's size and relative might.

The Philippine Air Force dispatched five aging F-5 fighters backed by four jet trainers and two helicopters, while the navy sent two additional ships.

This followed an order by President Fidel V. Ramos on Wednesday to strengthen forces in the area close to

Panganiban Reef, a part of the Spratly Islands claimed by the Philippines.

"Our entire force of F-5's has been sent there, five of them," said Colonel Felipe Gaerlan, an air force spokesman in Manila. "Unfortunately, they are the most advanced interceptors jets we have."

The previously unoccupied Panganiban atoll, also known as Mischief

NEWS ANALYSIS

Reef, is now under the control of Beijing after nine Chinese ships, several of them identified by the Philippine military as naval vessels, brought men and materials to build a series of structures on still.

The platforms at Panganiban are similar to garrisons that the Chinese have built on reefs elsewhere in the Spratlys. Aerial reconnaissance showed that some of the Chinese appeared to be soldiers, General Arturo Enrile, the chief of the Philippine armed forces, said Thursday.

Beijing maintains that the new facilities are to ensure the safety of Chinese fishermen working in the area.

Philippine officials say the reef

could be used as a naval anchorage and military base.

Manila has lodged a "strong diplomatic protest" with Beijing. But Philippine officials have made it clear that the country will not attempt to dislodge the Chinese by force.

Diplomats said that Manila's diplomatic position was as weak as its military one, and that Beijing had moved to exploit that weakness.

Neither the United States, which has a mutual defense treaty with the Philippines, nor Manila's partners in the Association of the South East Asian Nations, have publicly supported the Philippine position.

All or part of the area of the Spratlys claimed by the Philippines is also claimed by Brunei and Malaysia, two of Manila's ASEAN partners, and by China, Vietnam and Taiwan.

At a meeting in Manila in 1992, foreign ministers of ASEAN issued a Declaration on the South China Sea that called on the Spratly claimants to exercise restraint and settle their disputes peacefully.

Vietnam subsequently endorsed the declaration, but Beijing gave it only qualified support. Vietnam, which is expected to join ASEAN in July, is the

only signatory to have commented publicly on the Chinese occupation of Panganiban Reef.

Hanoi on Thursday reiterated its claim to the Spratlys and the Paracel Islands farther north, which Chinese forces seized in 1974.

Ho Tan Lan, a spokeswoman for the Foreign Ministry in Hanoi, said that disagreements over sovereignty in the South China Sea must be resolved through peaceful negotiations.

Michael Leifer, a professor of international relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science, said that the "inability of Southeast Asian states to adopt a common position over the South China Sea" could encourage Beijing to continue its policy of "creeping assertiveness" in the area.

He added that that assertiveness might be encouraged by other factors as well. For example, he said, the United States is seen by Asian countries to have "lost the will to uphold the regional balance of power. Russia does not count militarily in Southeast Asia, while Japan is viewed as a sleeping giant best left alone."

Washington, which is having its own

difficulties with China, has refused to take sides in the Spratly dispute.

The United States "takes no position on the merits of the competing claims in the South China Sea," but would view the use of force in resolving differences as a serious matter, said the state department spokeswoman, Christine Shelley.

Admiral Richard Macke, commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, said that although China's latest action was "moving in a direction that I'm not comfortable with," dialogue "rather than isolation or confrontation" was still the best way to deal with Beijing.

Analysts said that the United States and a number of ASEAN countries were concerned that confronting China over the Spratlys now could strengthen hard-line nationalists at the expense of moderates in the factional maneuvering to succeed the ailing Deng Xiaoping.

Shannon Selin, a research associate in international relations at the University of British Columbia in Canada, said that problems with China could be exacerbated if skirmishing over Mr. Deng's succession led "one faction or another to court military support by taking a strong stand" on such issues as the South China Sea.

North Korea's Leader Turns 53, in Private

Reuters

TOKYO — North Korea's official media said a double rainbow rose over the country's most revered peak on Thursday to mark the 53rd birthday of Kim Jong Il and that baskets of flowers arrived in Pyongyang from around the world.

Absent, however, from the celebrations of what the official press agency KCNA called "the most auspicious common holiday of humankind" was the enigmatic leader himself.

There have been only a handful of reported sightings of Mr. Kim since the death in July of his father, Kim Il Sung, the nation's founder and autocratic leader for a half-century.

There had been speculation that Mr. Kim might on Thursday formally assume his father's posts of state president and leader of the Communist Party after the government decreed the birthday the nation's "greatest holiday."

But Mr. Kim did not even to attend the Communist Party's banquet in his honor. His long public absence and failure to formally assume positions of power seven months after the death of his father have kept alive speculation about his health and about a power struggle involving the country's powerful military.

The official press agency's birthday coverage, monitored in Tokyo, focused on international observations of the birthday and on mysterious natural events they said were linked to the holiday.

Birthday gifts included baskets from the Communist Party of China; Yasser Arafat, the head of the Palestine Liberation Organization; and the Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Gadhafi, the press agency said.

North Korean scientists were reported to have observed on Monday twin rainbows in the sky over Mount Paektu, revered as the country's most sacred mountain and named in official documents as Mr. Kim's birthplace.



A North Korean soldier standing along the DMZ on Thursday, the birthday of his country's leader, Kim Jong Il.

Afghan Chief Quits, UN Envoy Reports

Militia Won't Join Interim Council

Reuters

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — A UN envoy said Thursday that President Burhanuddin Rabbani of Afghanistan would hand over power to an interim council in Kabul, the capital, in the next few days.

"I am expecting Rabbani to step down on Monday and transfer power," said the envoy, Mahmud Mestiri. "Of course there is always some uncertainty, but I am confident."

But he said that the crusading Islamic militia known as the Taleban had refused to be represented on the council.

"They said no because they don't want to be with parties they consider criminals," Mr. Mestiri said.

Mr. Mestiri, a former foreign minister of Tunisia, said he would fly to Kabul on Friday with some of the Afghan leaders who will make up the interim council of about 25 members.

The Taleban swept to the gates of Kabul this week, dis-

lodging the forces of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the main opposition leader, and dramatically changing the Afghan balance of power.

A Potent Fighting Force

John F. Burns of The New York Times reported earlier from Islamabad:

The Taleban, a force of self-professed Islamic purists and Afghan patriots, many of them former religious students, has taken control of more than 40 percent of Afghanistan.

It is now by far the most powerful force in the country.

The group has made big gains in 9 of Afghanistan's 30 provinces. Its drive has created the largest chunk of Afghanistan under united control since Soviet forces arrived in December 1979.

This week, a Taleban force halted barely 15 kilometers (nine miles) from Kabul and issued an ultimatum — renewed Thursday — that the city's defenders withdraw, an indication that Kabul is next in their sights.

Along the way, the Taleban has uprooted scores of mujahidin commanders, the self-styled "soldiers of God" who took to Afghanistan's wild valleys and mountains to fight the Soviet occupiers 15 years ago.

An explosion of popular resentment against the warlords has been as much a factor in the Taleban's success as its military might. Many Afghans say they see in the new force the salvation for their country that they have waited for so long.

The enthusiasm of many Afghans for the Taleban is not wholly shared by diplomats who have worked for years to secure an Afghan peace. As Taleban successes grew in recent weeks, the mujahidin leaders who led the resistance to the Russians suddenly found common ground that had eluded them for years.

Some of the group's strict Muslim beliefs could stir protest once the relief felt by people who have been freed of the warlords' repression begins to recede.

The minister said that a Communist revival remains a danger, even 30 years after communism was harnessed in Indonesia.

Thais Alert Border Unit To Burmese Incursions

Agence France-Press

BANGKOK — Thailand ordered security forces onto full alert Thursday along the frontier with Burma after a series of border violations by Burmese troops battling ethnic Karen rebels.

Thailand's military command ordered security forces to respond immediately to incursions by Burmese forces engaged in an offensive against a Karen base near the frontier.

Thailand's 3d Army commander, Surachet Dechawong, said that Burmese forces had asked Thai troops to withdraw from a district opposite the main Karen base at Kawmoora, inside Burma, but that the Thais refused.

On Wednesday, the Foreign Ministry summoned the Burmese ambassador to Bangkok, U Tin Winn, for the second time in two weeks to protest incidents along the border.

The Thai deputy foreign minister, Surin Pitsuwan, said, "We have expressed our serious concern that if the problem persists, then it would sour the atmosphere of good neighborhood relations in the region, which all of us have tried to develop in the past few years."

Vietnam Is Criticized For Jailing 23 Buddhists

Agence France-Press

HANOI — The two most senior members of Vietnam's dissident Buddhist church were among 23 monks who have been arrested since October, Amnesty International said in a report released Thursday.

The London-based human rights group added that many others have been questioned at least once. It said it believed that 36 monks in all had been detained, some since the late 1970s.

"These arrests and the events leading to them," the report said, "show the continuing repression of Buddhism in Vietnam and are in flagrant contradiction to the Vietnamese government's assertion of freedom of religion."

Amnesty International called for the "immediate and unconditional" release of Thich Huyen Quang and Thich Quang Do, two leaders of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam.

It said they were "detained solely for exercising their rights

BRIEFLY ASIA



CLEANUP DETAIL — Two Marines, David Settles, standing, and Cory Klepp, polishing a memorial on Iwo Jima before the 50th anniversary of the island battle.

Fatal Fire Unleashes Taipei Anger

TAICHUNG, Taiwan — Taiwan's government lashed out at illegal public buildings Thursday after a fire killed 64 people.

Flames engulfed a three-story restaurant and karaoke complex in this central Taiwan city late Wednesday, trapping victims behind sealed windows and metal slats as they made for a single exit. Fire fighters said the dead lay heaped near doorways and windows, having choked on poisonous smoke.

Prime Minister Lien Chan said the complex was partly illegal and vowed that any government unit found to have acted wrongly would be punished. "To maintain public safety is the most important link in government policy," Mr. Lien was quoted by a government spokesman as telling Parliament.

The restaurant failed a safety check Monday because it had only one exit — the main entrance — and insufficient fire-fighting facilities.

Hong Kong Media Suit Dismissed

HONG KONG — In a ruling hailed as a victory for Hong Kong media, a court on Thursday threw out an official prosecution of a newspaper that published information about a land auction probe.

Judge Hugh Sinclair ruled that the prosecution had no case and that the action violated Hong Kong's bill of rights.

The Ming Pao daily and three of its editorial staff were prosecuted for revealing information about an investigation by the Independent Commission Against Corruption into allegations that major property developers rigged a government land auction.

The commission used Hong Kong's sweeping anti-corruption laws to prosecute the newspaper on the grounds that its reporting hindered the investigation.

China Leader Assails Corruption

BEIJING — In one of the strongest messages so far, Prime Minister Li Peng of China has warned that corruption and abuse of power have angered the public and could threaten Communist Party rule, official media reported Thursday.

Speaking to an anti-corruption conference sponsored by the State Council, China's cabinet, Mr. Li said Wednesday that bribery, embezzlement and other economic crimes, abuse of power, influence peddling and arbitrary enforcement of the laws had "aroused resentment among the broad masses of people because they are very serious."

Top leaders of the Communist Party have stepped up an anti-graft campaign in recent months, arguing that public resentment toward officials could erupt into mass protests.

With China's paramount leader, Deng Xiaoping, reported to be in declining health, fears of unrest appear to have deepened.

Mr. Li said the fate of the party, and the nation, hinged on effectively dealing with the problem.

VOICES From Asia

Deng Rong, a daughter of Deng Xiaoping, on the senior leader of China: "Health permitting, he said he wanted to set foot in Hong Kong in 1997. He would be willing to go in a wheelchair. He still has this hope."

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas of Indonesia, on the dispute between the Philippines and China over islands in the South China Sea: "We continue to hope that this issue of overlapping claims of sovereignty can be peacefully resolved either bilaterally or multilaterally."

Nikhil Gupta, a trader with D.S. Purbodhas, on a decline in Indian stocks after news that state-owned banks had raised prime lending rates: "Though this was in the cards, these guys have really gone and done it."

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

TODAY'S REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE

Appears on Page 15

AGS INT'L MOVING

A.G.S. PARIS (33-1) 40 80 20 40

AUTO RENTALS

RENT FROM DENISE AUTO WEEKEND, FR 515

SPECIAL OFFER: 7 DAYS FR 1,400

PARIS TEL: (1) 45 87 27 04

AUTOS TAX FREE

EURO + U.S.A. SPECIFICATIONS

E.A.C. General Discounting 1130A

2500 EX. The Motor 13000415

3170259245 Fr. 3500024 Fr. 32330

LEGAL SERVICES

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: \$9,900. Different countries at different prices. Chronological, fast and legal. For Consular Agents: 1-300-94515 USA

DIVORCE IN 1 DAY. No travel. Write: Box 307, Sudbury, MA 01776 USA. Tel: 508/443-8387. Fax: 508/443-8385

DIVORCE FAST - \$495

Guaranteed by U.S. Embassy. Call/Fax: 014 968-8095 USA.

COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

PRESTON UNIVERSITY, USA

B.A., B.S., M.A., M.F., Ph.D. programs. Home Study or On-Campus. Located by the Department of Education 2727 Ohio Ave., Cleveland, OH 44115. Tel: 216/781-1100. Fax: 216/781-1101

TODAY'S HOLIDAYS & TRAVEL SECTION

Appears on Page 8

BUSINESS MESSAGE CENTER

PERSONALS

OVERSEAS: I still love you LOUGHTY

LAST AMOROUS DO CONSUME WITH GILBERT, Grandchild, 15c, N4730

Ames, Norway

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention visitors from the U.S.!

READERS ARE ADVISED

that the International Herald Tribune cannot be held responsible for loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions stemming from advertisements which appear in our paper. It is a service recommended by the publisher to readers to consult with their legal advisors before entering into any binding commitment.

BUSINESS SERVICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

OFFSHORE BANKS

INSURANCE COMPANIES

COMPANIES & TRUSTS

ASSET PROTECTION

IMMIGRATION/PASSPORTS

TRADE - FINANCE

ASTON CORPORATE

TRUSTS LTD

19 Pool Road, Douglas, Isle of Man

Tel: 01624 626591

Fax: 01624 626592

London Tel: (171) 222 8866

Fax: (171) 222 1519

LARGE INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

SEEKS FUNDS

PARTNERSHIPS

BANKS, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

INSURANCE COMPANIES

AND INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS

To finance the International Trade Edition and Industrial Projects of its clients

Please address detailed proposals with references to Box 3901 International Herald Tribune 92521 Newbury Circle, Suite 300

INTERNATIONAL FINANCINGS AND CREDITS

FUNDS AVAILABLE

ALL BUSINESS PROJECTS OR AGREEMENTS

OR OTHER ACCEPTABLE COLLATERAL

INTERNATIONAL LEASING

FOR FINANCING OF PURCHASE OF HEAVY INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT

Broker's commission guaranteed

FOR ANY INFORMATION

M.J.P.K. & Co.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

Bureau: 2525A 10-77

or 2525B 47-71

TELEX: 30277

Save on International Phone Calls

Save 50% and more compared to local phone companies. Local phone companies even heavily limit overseas services. Check our rates for your country and see how you can start saving today.

Call us now and we'll call you right back!

Tel 1-206-284-8600

Fax 1-206-282-6666

Agents inquiries welcome!

Call us now and we'll call you right back!

Tel 1-206-284-8600

Fax 1-206-282-6666

Agents inquiries welcome!

AVAILABLE CAPITAL

Equity or debt financing. A program tailored to your corporate needs.

No front fees. Our fees are earned based strictly on performance. Long terms, best rates, broker fees paid and protected.

For your proposal submit to: Fox East Investment Group, Inc. Attn: Financial Department Fax: (507) 62-5033 (Minnesota)

\$20 Trillion Private Funds

500 leading U.S. financial institutions. 200 leading U.S. banks. 100 leading U.S. insurance companies. 100 leading U.S. investment firms. 100 leading U.S. real estate firms. 100 leading U.S. technology firms. 100 leading U.S. manufacturing firms. 100 leading U.S. service firms. 100 leading U.S. government agencies. 100 leading U.S. non-profit organizations. 100 leading U.S. international organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign governments. 100 leading U.S. foreign companies. 100 leading U.S. foreign individuals. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutions. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives. 100 leading U.S. foreign endeavors. 100 leading U.S. foreign ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign enterprises. 100 leading U.S. foreign businesses. 100 leading U.S. foreign organizations. 100 leading U.S. foreign groups. 100 leading U.S. foreign associations. 100 leading U.S. foreign unions. 100 leading U.S. foreign clubs. 100 leading U.S. foreign societies. 100 leading U.S. foreign academies. 100 leading U.S. foreign institutes. 100 leading U.S. foreign centers. 100 leading U.S. foreign offices. 100 leading U.S. foreign branches. 100 leading U.S. foreign subsidiaries. 100 leading U.S. foreign affiliates. 100 leading U.S. foreign partners. 100 leading U.S. foreign joint ventures. 100 leading U.S. foreign consortiums. 100 leading U.S. foreign alliances. 100 leading U.S. foreign networks. 100 leading U.S. foreign systems. 100 leading U.S. foreign programs. 100 leading U.S. foreign projects. 100 leading U.S. foreign initiatives

EUROPE

Italian Probe Links Andreotti to Mafia State Cites Compelling Proof Connecting Crime to Politics

By William Drozdiak
Washington Post Service

ROME — Italy's anti-Mafia prosecutors say they have unearthed some of the most explosive evidence to date linking one of the country's major politicians of the postwar era to the most powerful ringleaders of organized crime in Sicily.

Nearly two years after they began exploring alleged connections between Mafia clans and political parties, investigators said they had gathered what they consider to be compelling proof of a long and secret relationship between the Cosa Nostra leadership and Giulio Andreotti, 76, the Christian Democrat leader who served as prime minister in seven governments.

Judicial sources said the evidence would shed new light on how the Christian Democrats exercised a virtual political monopoly in the south by trading favors with crime syndicates that could deliver large blocs of votes. The party, which dominated Italian politics for more than four decades, was dissolved last year in the aftermath of the massive corruption scandal involving kickbacks for state contracts.

Mr. Andreotti has denied all charges that he was linked in any way to the Mafia and said such claims were motivated by a desire by informants to exact revenge for the efforts by his governments to curb the Sicilian clans.

But judiciary officials said testimony from politicians close to Mr. Andreotti would demonstrate the extraordinary extent of cooperation between the Mafia and the Christian Democrats, who were led for many years by Mr. Andreotti.

The sources said the evidence would show how the Mafia's political clout eventually became so great that it heavily influenced the choice of judges and Christian Democratic political candidates — who in turn would ensure tolerance of Mafia activities and provide lenient treatment for criminal figures who were arrested.

Giuseppe Caselli, chief prosecutor in Palermo, said the evidence would be unveiled at a hearing Friday at which he will ask the examining magistrate to place Mr. Andreotti on trial for being a "man of honor" — the gangland euphemism for being a full member of the Mafia.

The hearing already has been postponed three times. Mr. Andreotti's lawyers said they probably would ask another adjournment for time to scrutinize the fresh evidence.

The prosecution has built much of its case, spelled out in more than 86,000 pages, on testimony from prominent Mafia turncoats such as Tommaso Buscetta, who have broken their vows of silence in return for leniency. Mr. Buscetta lives in the United States under an assumed identity but has returned on several occasions to testify against the Mafia.

But the most damaging information, judicial sources said, has come lately from Mr. Andreotti's own Sicilian political protégés, including a former senator, Franco Evangelisti, and Gioacchino Pennino, who was a Christian Democrat member of the Palermo City Council.

Mr. Caselli said Mr. Pennino, in particular, had furnished detailed information that helped explain how the mutually beneficial arrangements between the Christian Democratic Party and Mafia chieftains evolved from their common hatred of the Communists.

Judicial sources said Mr. Pennino's testimony was primarily responsible for the arrest this week of two Christian Democrat Parliament members from Sicily, ex-Senator Vincenzo Ierullo and former government minister Calogero Mannino, who were charged with working for the Mafia.

Jews Immigrate to Germany

FRANKFURT — The number of Jews in Germany has nearly doubled since 1989, thanks to immigration from Eastern Europe, and now there are more than 45,000 Jewish officials said Thursday. Before the Holocaust, there were about 500,000 Jews in Germany.

BRIEFLY EUROPE

EU Anti-Racism Body Is Proposed

STRASBOURG — The European Union should set up a watchdog body to monitor and curb racist attacks on minorities, the European Parliament said Thursday. The assembly was reacting to the killings earlier this month of four Gypsy men in Austria by a booby-trapped bomb that the police believe was planted by neo-Nazis. Austria joined the EU in January. (Reuters)

Russia's Ban on Visit Is Protested

MOSCOW — The European Parliament protested Wednesday over a Russian decision to forbid a European Union delegation to travel to the breakaway southern republic of Chechnya next week. An official statement said the European Parliament's chairman, Klaus Haensch, would regard the Russian move "as a severe blow" to relations with Russia. The delegation was due to head for Chechnya via Moscow from Feb. 19 to 24 on a fact-finding mission. But the Russian Consulate in Strasbourg refused to issue the visas. (Reuters)

Don't Isolate Russia, Claes Warns

PARIS — Willy Claes, secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was quoted Thursday as saying that the West must avoid isolating Russia over its crushing of the rebellion in Chechnya. In an interview with the French newspaper Le Monde, Mr. Claes said that ostracizing Russia over repression in Chechnya would only help hard-liners in Moscow and complicate an eventual expansion of NATO to include central European states seeking membership. (Reuters)

French Hairdressers Lose in Court

LUXEMBOURG — The European Court of Justice on Thursday upheld French rules requiring French hairdressers to hold a diploma, when those from other European Union states do not need one to work in France. Seven French hairdressers, facing proceedings before a court in Charleville-Mézières for running salons without holding a national diploma, had argued that French law discriminated against them while favoring other EU nationals. (Reuters)

Britons Balk at Single Currency

LONDON — A majority of Britons would vote against having a single currency in Europe, an opinion poll showed Thursday. Seventy percent of those polled said Britain should have a referendum on the issue, which has caused bitter divisions in Prime Minister John Major's Conservative government and brought it to the brink of parliamentary defeat. Asked for their voting intentions in a referendum, 51 percent said they would reject a single European currency, 26 supported the idea and the rest were undecided. (Reuters)

EU to Aid Somalia Water Project

BRUSSELS — The European Union announced Thursday that it would provide \$874,000 for a water purification project in the Somali capital, Mogadishu. The group's executive agency said the money would help restore a water pumping and purification station that serves more than half the population of Mogadishu. (AP)

Calendar

European Union events scheduled for Friday:

STRASBOURG: End of European Parliament plenary session in Strasbourg.
BRUSSELS: President Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia visits the European Commission and will meet its president, Jacques Santer.
NANCY: Informal meeting of EU public works ministers in this eastern French city, joined by EU commissioners Padraig Flynn and Erkki Liikanen.
BRUSSELS: Annual symposium between the European bureau for minority languages and the European Commission, which will concentrate on Austria, Finland and Sweden's membership in the EU.
BRUSSELS: Europeans and Japanese continue their consultation on the enforcement terms and conditions of their agreement on cars. The introduction of new European Union member states into the agreement, which is informal and voluntary, is one of the main objects of discussion. Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.



Three Bosnian children roller-skating at a Sarajevo cemetery Thursday, as a cease-fire in the capital continued to hold.

5 Powers to Sweeten Their Offer to Serbia

By Roger Cohen
New York Times Service

PARIS — The five nations pursuing a peace settlement in Bosnia have agreed to offer President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia more than a suspension of international trade sanctions in exchange for his recognition of Bosnia and Croatia, French officials said Thursday.

The officials said that when Foreign Minister Andrei V. Kozirev of Russia visits Belgrade on Saturday to present the latest ideas of the five-nation "contact group," he will make clear to Mr. Milosevic that recognition would be accompanied by explicit guarantees for the Bosnian and Croatian Serbs.

President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia's mostly Muslim government would be required to give formal acceptance to the idea that the Bosnian Serbs are entitled to a "parallel treatment" to that accorded to Muslims and Croats in Bosnia. The

Muslims and Croats have been offered the right to confederate with Croatia, so such equivalency would presumably give the Bosnian Serbs the right to a similar arrangement with Serbia.

President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia would be required to rescind his demand that the United Nations troops who provide a buffer to the Croatian Serbs leave the country after March 31. Thus, Mr. Milosevic would gain the assurance that Serbs in Croatia are not abruptly exposed to attack.

Mr. Tudjman would also be asked to accept negotiations on an American-backed plan for the Croatian Serbs that offers most of them virtually complete autonomy. The Croatian government does not like the plan. In this way, the officials hope, Mr. Milosevic could argue that recognition of Bosnia and Croatia did not amount to abandonment of the Bosnian and Croatian Serbs he long supported in their military cam-

paigns to remain united with Serbia and evict or kill non-Serbs in the areas under their control.

Serbs hold about 70 percent of Bosnia and 30 percent of Croatia. "We have reason to believe," one official said, "that Mr. Milosevic's priority is now an end to Serbia's isolation and economic decline and that he no longer sees military means as the way to defend Serbian interests outside Serbia. That is the logic behind our offer."

But initial signs in Belgrade indicated that even such blandishments would fall well short of persuading Mr. Milosevic to opt for recognition of two countries whose borders he has contested for four years.

The newspaper Politika, which is close to Mr. Milosevic, reprinted comments from Vladimir Jovanovic, the foreign minister of the Serbian-dominated rump Yugoslav federation. He said, "We cannot recognize Croatia and Bosnia until

political solutions for the dispute in which all sides are equally treated are found."

Zarko Jokanovic, a spokesman for the New Democracy Party, which is allied with Mr. Milosevic's Serbian Socialist Party, said, "What is demanded of Serbia is too much considering the offer." And Vojislav Seselj, the leader of the hard-line Serbian Radical Party, said recognition would amount to "high treason."

Swiss Particle Physics Lab Is Crippled by a Saboteur

International Herald Tribune

A disgruntled technician sabotaged the world's largest particle physics laboratory, in Geneva, by dismantling hundreds of complex electronic modules, a spokesman said Thursday.

The spokesman for the European Particle Physics Laboratory said most of the 1,300 modules were found in hiding places under the flooring or behind walls and appeared to be undamaged. It will take weeks to reinstall and test them.

The modules controlled the operation of a huge particle accelerator known as a proton synchrotron.

Colleagues said the technician, who had been with the laboratory for 27 years, was tormented by his recent divorce. His former wife works as an administrative assistant at the laboratory, which straddles the Swiss-French frontier. The police in Bourgen-Bresse, France, identified the man as Nicolas Blazian, 53, of Romanian origin. They said he would be charged with theft and attempted extortion.

The spokesman said the technician worked all weekend to dismantle the control system. All the particle experiments at the laboratory depend on the proton synchrotron, which accelerates particles to an initial speed, or energy level. They are then injected into larger accelerators where they are collided together to recreate the conditions in the very early stages of the universe.

The laboratory's experiments are shut during the winter months to allow for maintenance and reprogramming. Experiments on the laboratory's main electronic collider were scheduled to resume in April, and the spokesman said it was hoped to get the synchrotron working by then. About 9,000 people, including 5,000 physicists, work at the center.

EU-Turkey Accord Hits Snag

STRASBOURG — The European Parliament threw further doubt on European Union plans for a customs agreement with Turkey on Thursday, saying Ankara's human rights record was too poor for the deal to be allowed to go through.

Members of Parliament adopted a resolution describing Turkey's rights record as "too grave to allow for the formation of the proposed custom union at present."

They said they would not approve a deal granting Turkey access to EU markets unless they heard reports of progress in the human rights area. Under the Maastricht treaty, the Parliament, the EU's only

directly elected body, has the power to block deals such as the customs union.

European Union foreign ministers have been working hard to agree on a deal that would allow Greece, Turkey's longtime rival, to drop its veto of the customs union.

In exchange for Athens' lifting its objections, the EU would

begin negotiation on EU membership with Cyprus six months after the end of the bloc's review of its own future, which is due to begin next year.

Greece is eager to see Cyprus, partitioned into Greek and Turkish communities since a 1974 Turkish invasion, join the Union. It has, however, been holding off lifting its veto, demanding various clarifications.

The customs union, which foresees sharp two-way reductions in trade barriers by 1996, would give Turkey some of the closest links to the EU of a nonmember country and unblock as much as \$1 billion in aid.

Unionists Warn Major On Proposal

LONDON — Opponents of Irish reunification bluntly told Prime Minister John Major on Thursday that his plans for peace in Northern Ireland were unacceptably one-sided.

Three members of Parliament representing Unionists who want the province to stay British said Mr. Major failed to dispel their fears at a meeting earlier this week that the proposals amounted to a sell-out to Dublin.

"While we remain willing to discuss our own reasonable proposals, we would not be able to enter into talks on the basis of an agenda which we regard to be a one-sided nationalist agenda," they said in a letter to Mr. Major.

Britain and Ireland are trying to bring Unionist and nationalist parties together to discuss how to cement peace in Northern Ireland, still fragile after cease-fires six months ago ended a 25-year-old civil war that cost 3,200 lives.

Oysters "R" Far Too Many

PARIS — French oyster growers are chomping on a 4,000-ton oyster mountain, caused by a slide in foreign orders and a mild winter that has let the shellfish get too fat.

The warm temperatures have helped the oysters grow too big for traditional consumption — eaten raw from the shell. Some weigh more than 500 grams (1 pound) each. Growers say that orders from abroad, especially from Italy, have also fallen.

"In my opinion, the only solution is destruction," the grower François Cadoret told TF1 television in Britain.

Publisher to Destroy Book Alleging Jews Ran Camps

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

BONN — After complaints by a leading literary critic and other figures, a German publisher has ordered the withdrawal and destruction of the German-language version of a book asserting that Jews ran internment camps for Germans in postwar Poland.

The book, "Eye for an Eye" by John Sack, had been labeled "anti-Semitic fodder" in a review by one of Germany's leading literary critics, Elke Geisel. News of its impending publication stirred charges that the book would be exploited by

neo-Nazis likening the treatment of Germans to the killing of 6 million Jews.

By the time the uproar broke out, 6,000 German copies of the book had already been printed, though none had yet been sold.

The German publisher, Piper Verlag of Munich, said in a statement that the book "could become the cause for some misunderstanding, that is that the Holocaust might be compared with other crimes of that time or could even be set off against them."

The decision to withdraw the book reflected profound sensitivities over Germany's view of its own past, especially in a year

studded with commemorations of the traumatic events 50 years ago that led up to the Nazi capitulation in May 1945.

Viktor Niemann, the publisher of Piper, said in the statement that "everything must be avoided that could possibly turn the discussion into a wrong direction."

Mr. Niemann, who has said the print run would probably be recycled, could not be reached Wednesday night to say whether the books, stacked in a Stuttgart warehouse, had already been destroyed.

Mr. Sack, an American journalist, argued in "Eye for an Eye" (Basic Books, 1993) that

Stalin deliberately chose Jews to oversee secret police activities in the former German territories of postwar Poland.

The author based his conclusions on interviews with several high-ranking Jewish members of the Office of State Security, the Polish Communist organization that, under Soviet supervision, maintained some former Nazi death camps in Poland after World War II.

According to Mr. Sack, the German Federal Archives say that 60,000 to 80,000 Germans died in Polish internment camps between 1945 and 1948. Some American critics as-

sailed the book as sensational.

But Mr. Sack said Wednesday that 15 months after the book was published in the United States, its veracity had not been substantially challenged.

"The story I'm trying to get out is that the story has been fact-checked" by major American news organizations, he said, and "nobody has yet found any error in it."

YACHT FOR SALE

1990 Oyster 68

Lying Southern France. Excellent condition. Very well equipped. Being well looked after by full time professional crew. Never chartered.

Phone: 033 94 43 23 05 Fax: 033 94 56 13 14

In this Saturday's

MONEY

The Psychology of Investing

Why is selling an investment so difficult?

Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

- Monday International Conferences and Seminars
- Tuesday Education Directory
- Wednesday Business Message Center
- Thursday International Recruitment
- Friday Real Estate Marketplace, Holidays and Travel
- Saturday Arts and Antiques

Plus over 300 headings in International Classified Monday through Saturday For further information, contact Philip Orna in Paris: Tel: (33-1) 46 37 94 74 - Fax: (33-1) 46 37 52 12

Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

INDONESIA: PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

- Among the topics to be covered are:
- Repelita VI, the 5-year development plan.
 - Examination of changing consumer trends.
 - Foreign investment — a record \$18 billion in 1994.
 - The boom in commercial and residential real estate.
 - A review of the Jakarta stock market.

For further information, please contact Bill Mahler in Paris at (33-1) 46 37 93 78 or fax (33-1) 46 37 50 44.

Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

ITC
INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY
WORLDWIDE CALL BACK SYSTEM
Now offers Direct Dial to anywhere in the world at Call Back Prices.
Fax & Data can also be used with ITC's Direct Dialer.

Distributors Needed Worldwide
For Call Back / Call Centers and Prepaid Calling Cards International and Domestic.
International Telephone Company
290 Pratt Street, Meriden, CT 06450-2118
1800-638-5558 ext. 111/ 203-238-9794
Fax: 203-929-4906
"Limited Countries Available"

Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Don't Reward Serbia

The Five Are Wrong

The five-power negotiating group on Bosnia — France, Britain, Germany and Russia, in addition to the United States — is offering to lift all remaining United Nations economic sanctions on Serbia. In return it asks Belgrade to recognize the independence of Bosnia and Croatia and cut off supplies to rebel Serbian forces in both countries.

That might be a reasonable proposal if Serbia's president, Slobodan Milosevic, had a record of honoring his commitments, or if the five-power group had a record of insisting on compliance with its deals. Neither is true.

The Clinton administration, which portrays itself as a reluctant partner in Europe's pro-Serbian strategy, should have rejected this latest diplomatic charade. The new humiliations it courts can only strengthen the hand of Senate critics like Bob Dole, the majority leader, who are pushing Washington to ditch its European allies and independently lift the arms embargo on the Bosnian government.

The latest offer to Belgrade comes as evidence mounts that Serbia has not lived up to the last deal it made with the five powers. Last year Mr. Milosevic pledged to stop supplying the Bosnian Serbs in exchange for a partial lifting of UN sanctions against Serbia. Recently Serbian helicopters have been brazenly flying supplies across the supposedly sealed border. Yet instead of reimposing the lifted sanctions there is an offer to elimi-

nate those which remain. The sanctions lifted last year were symbolic. Those now being discussed affect Serbia's ability to wage protracted war.

Washington's motive in going along with the five-power plan was apparently fear that Croatia would expel UN forces from its territory, perhaps triggering a wider war. Serbian recognition of Croatian independence, in theory, might allow the UN troops to stay. It is a worthy, if elusive, objective, but the price is too high.

Bribing Mr. Milosevic to make peace was never the Clinton administration's preferred policy. Washington long and correctly argued that the world should let Bosnia defend itself by lifting the unfair arms embargo that tilts the battlefield balance toward the Serbs. Regrettably, the administration has all but dropped its efforts on the arms embargo in the name of NATO unity. But instead of strengthening NATO, the administration's passivity toward Europe has weakened it. American lawmakers are becoming disenchanted with an alliance in which American dollars and troops are welcome but American ideas are not.

Washington needs to reconsider this latest proposal to court the Serbs. Instead it should start pressing its allies to move together toward lifting the Bosnian arms embargo before the Senate forces separate American action. The time to talk about lifting more sanctions on Serbia will come when Serbia starts honoring its commitments.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Seeking a Phony Peace

The United States and its partners in dealing with the old Yugoslavia have got it upside down. What they should be doing is putting more pressure on Serbia and the Serbian rebels it supports in Bosnia and Croatia. What they actually are doing is putting on less pressure by prematurely opening up the possibility of ending the already partly suspended, porous sanctions on Serbia that are in place.

This new sweetener concocted by the five-nation Contact Group takes as its stated purpose to draw the Serbian regime of Slobodan Milosevic into formal acceptance of international peace plans for Bosnia and Croatia. But it was always implicit anyway that if Mr. Milosevic decided to rein in his wild ambitions for a Greater Serbia, the sanctions on him would fade away. Now to make it explicit — while he still cheats on his pledges, before he has shown a commitment to restraint — is to invite him to bargain the Contact Group down: to extract a large concession for a minimal policy change.

It is easy enough to grasp why the Contact Group finds itself in the weird position of proposing to suspend not the military embargo on the chief victim.

Bosnia, but the economic sanctions on the chief offender, Serbia. It is because none of the group's five members has a taste for employing the force it would take to stiffen their lowest-common-denominator collective diplomacy.

To prevent their diplomacy from becoming altogether laughable, the five should at the least be stiffening it with tougher sanctions on Serbia. But this they decline to do.

A tragic irony is building. The danger now perceived by the Contact Group is that the war will spread. But the burden of constraining it is being put largely on the Muslims and, to a lesser extent, the Croats. They can fairly wonder whether they are not being asked to swallow huge Serbian incursions on their territory, viability and sovereignty for the geopolitical convenience of states far from the battlefield and substantially unaffected by its flows. Feeling abandoned even as their fundamental interests are threatened, Muslims and Croats may yet be confirmed in a judgment that they can satisfy their legitimate political goals only by military means. Seeking a phony peace the United States and its partners may be stoking a greater war.

— THE WASHINGTON POST.

About Secretary Brown

Confronted with suspicious-looking financial dealings by one of his highest-profile cabinet officers, President Bill Clinton has responded with a debatable non sequitur. Ron Brown, he has said, has "been a great commerce secretary."

As Mr. Clinton should have learned at considerable pain, slippery language is no way to treat a serious ethics question. Whether or not Mr. Brown engaged in shady practices, the presidential brush-off suggests that the administration thinks it has something to hide. Abner Mikva, the White House counsel, met with Mr. Brown's attorney but, oddly, did not press for a detailed explanation. Clearly, Mr. Mikva has a duty to dig harder for the facts, and the president has an obligation to come forward with a thorough public accounting.

Representative William Clinger Jr., Republican of Pennsylvania, began trying a year ago to get Mr. Brown to explain some curious items on his financial disclosure statement. Mr. Brown, responding mostly through aides, has given inaccurate, incomplete and misleading answers. The central questions arise from his interest in a small investment and consulting business called First International Inc. and his complex transactions with his partner in the company, Noland Hill.

At the center of it all is a provocative mystery: How did Mr. Brown earn more than \$400,000 from the sale of his stake in the not-so-successful company, in which he says he invested no money and had little direct involvement?

He answers that it is not unusual for companies to pay prominent individuals for lending their names, prestige and advice to business ventures. But such spontaneous generosity by a small, troubled business does not seem commonplace at all. In any event, does Mr. Clinton believe

it proper for a commerce secretary to hold an interest in any business that depends on his name to open doors?

Another question is whether Mr. Brown complied with financial disclosure rules in reporting payments by Ms. Hill, supposedly as part of the sale of his interest in First International. She covered \$262,000 in personal debts for him and issued three checks of \$45,000 each from a separate and previously undisclosed company, First International Limited Partnership. Congressional investigators are intrigued by the timing of the checks, which were written months before Mr. Brown says he divested his interest, in December 1993.

There are other perplexing angles, most notably Mr. Brown's relationship with another company owned by Ms. Hill, Corridor Broadcasting Corporation. Mr. Brown, through a spokesman, firmly denied any business ties to Corridor, which cost taxpayers \$23 million when it defaulted on a loan held by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. But it turns out that Corridor and First International shared an office, and a promissory note from Corridor was First International's main asset. Mr. Brown asserts, implausibly, that he was unaware of these links to Corridor. Republican critics, meanwhile, ask whether the assets of Corridor were drained fraudulently or recklessly while the loan was in default, and whether Mr. Brown has any indirect link to the FDIC losses.

The Justice Department and the FDIC have opened their own inquiries. But that does not absolve the president from making an independent, public judgment about Mr. Brown's dealings. This, after all, is the administration that came to town promising that it would not tolerate smelly deals.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES.

UN Peacekeeping Was and Will Remain Invaluable

By Brian Urquhart

WASHINGTON — "As you know the United States ... has a strong interest in the early establishment of standby arrangements for a United Nations Peace Force. The interest of the American people in this concept is further demonstrated by the fact that during the past year resolutions were adopted by both the House of Representatives and the Senate calling for the establishment of a United Nations force."

Those words, written by an American secretary of state, John Foster Dulles, to a UN secretary general, Dag Hammarskjöld, provide a good measure of how different the climate in Washington is these days toward the idea of UN peacekeeping operations.

"I want to assure you that the United States is prepared to assist you in every feasible manner in strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to discharge its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, a task to which you have already contributed so much," Mr. Dulles wrote in that 1958 letter.

Mr. Hammarskjöld responded cautiously. At that high point in the Cold War he feared that a standing UN force, actively opposed by the Soviet Union, would become a political football be-

tween East and West, destroying the fragile innovation of peacekeeping that he had pioneered during the Suez crisis of 1956 and the Lebanon crisis of 1958.

President Dwight Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles, on the other hand, evidently saw a standby UN peacekeeping capacity as being greatly in the interest of the United States. In fact, just 18 months later President Eisenhower, pressed by the new prime minister of the Congo for U.S. intervention there, adroitly referred him to the United Nations. The resulting peacekeeping operation was widely regarded as an extraordinary success in dealing with the chaos there.

Since that time the United Nations has undertaken some 25 such assignments of varying sizes in different parts of the world. Given the desperate origins of most of these operations, it is scarcely surprising that not all have achieved all their objectives. But it is worth noting that in the present controversy over peacekeeping, the successful operations — which constitute the majority — are seldom mentioned.

In recent months, for example, there has been much discussion of placing U.S. troops in the Golan Heights as part of the Middle East peace process, but little mention of the UN Disengagement Observer Force, which has successfully presided over peace on the Golan Heights since 1974.

Somalia and Bosnia are constantly

invoked, but the Nobel Peace Prize of 1988 and later successes in Namibia, Cambodia, El Salvador and Mozambique are routinely forgotten.

The prevailing attitude in Washington toward UN peacekeeping these days seems to be a radical reversal of the earlier U.S. attitude. The impression is often given now that past U.S. support of these efforts was an aberration, a charitable — and largely unwise — gesture of concession. But in fact, from Suez in 1956 to the present time, UN peacekeeping has far more often been a vital element of U.S. foreign policy.

During the Cold War, it was vital to maintaining international peace and security, because, among other things, it kept regional conflicts out of the U.S.-Soviet orbit and lessened the potential of such conflicts for provoking nuclear East-West confrontation.

In the post-Cold War world, that motivation for supporting peacekeeping no longer exists. The United Nations' new involvements are for the most part in massive civil and ethnic conflicts where human, not international, security is involved, although such disasters often cause major destabilization in neighboring states as well as strong emotional reactions worldwide.

It is this change in the basic character of conflict that has led the more vocal opponents of United Nations peacekeeping to argue that there is little or no U.S. national interest in it.

But as Charles William Maynes has pointed out in testimony before the House Foreign Affairs Committee, to-

day's great powers are "like the most successful members of any community." He continued: "They have a stake in the general health of the community. They cannot and should not be the world's policeman."

Great powers have major economic and other interests in global stability, but find it increasingly unwise to intervene on their own in regional conflicts. It was considerations such as these that underlay the enthusiasm of Mr. Dulles and Mr. Eisenhower for building up the peacekeeping capacity of the United Nations.

Even the most criticized UN operations, such as the protection force in ex-Yugoslavia, often serve as a useful pretext for avoiding more intensive U.S. involvement, and as a screen for differences with allies. Imperfect though they are, they also save thousands of lives.

UN peacekeeping can be, and will continue to be, an invaluable — even an indispensable — instrument of peace. Its capacity and effectiveness need to be strengthened, not diminished.

To be sure, new forms, rules and methods, including a training system, need to be developed. But the cost of peacekeeping, contrary to widespread belief, is small by comparison with the cost of massive military involvement, which timely peacekeeping often succeeds in making unnecessary. John Foster Dulles got it right.

The writer, a former UN undersecretary-general, is a scholar in residence at the Ford Foundation. He contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.

Beyond the Peso, Mexico's Whole Development Strategy Is in Crisis

By Jerome L. Levinson

WASHINGTON — It did not take long for the peso crisis to escalate into a full-fledged national crisis for Mexico and its ruling party. Far from being just a short-term financial market phenomenon, the country's currency devaluation has been followed in rapid order by defeat in an important state election and by troubling developments with regard to the peasant uprising in the southern part of the country.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the development strategy being followed by Mexico is not viable, either within the country or for the United States. To ignore this warning, as Washington mounts a rescue operation to get the government of President Ernesto Zedillo out of its current mess, is to invite an even more fundamental crisis in the future.

An explosive social and political situation has been building for some time in Mexico. One reason for this can be seen in a central feature of the government's latest development strategy: an agreement by labor unions to wage

increases substantially lower than the inflation rate in 1995.

That agreement was possible because the official labor union confederations in Mexico are adjuncts of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, more attuned to the political demands of the government than to the interests of their members. That is why they agreed to a "social pact" during the past seven years that often resulted in suppressing the real wages of workers.

Once again, as in the decade of the 1980s, Mexican workers — who were assured that passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement would lead to higher wages and employment — are being asked to bear the brunt of an austerity program demanded by foreign creditors.

The regressive wage policy coincides with the question of land and its ownership. Land in Mexico is often communally owned by peasant communities, the *ejidos*. In order to prepare Mexico for

NAFTA, the predecessor government of Carlos Salinas de Gortari amended the constitution to permit the *ejido* lands to be divided among their members, making it easier for individuals to sell their land to larger, more efficient landowners better able to compete with U.S. and Canadian producers after a transition period envisioned by NAFTA.

This process displaced large numbers of poor peasants, fueled the peasant uprising in Chiapas and accounted for much of the sympathy that the southern uprising initially drew from rural areas in other Mexican states.

Moreover, a significant part of Mexico's small and medium labor-intensive manufacturing sector has been devastated by the open-market regime of NAFTA and Mexico's adherence to GATT. The result has been increasing concentration of economic assets in a relatively small group of Mexican conglomerates, accentuating glaring income inequalities.

All these things, combined with the response to the immediate financial crisis — accelerated entry of foreign banks and proposed distress sale of remaining state-owned assets to powerful private domestic and foreign investors — make for a politically combustible situation.

The loss of important elections in the state of Jalisco, and President Zedillo's stops and starts on dealing with the problem in Chiapas, could be just the first signs of domestic unrest that will make the peso crisis look like a tempest in a teapot.

The safety valve for the social and political tinderbox that is Mexico today has been emigration to the United States by the population displaced by Mexico's economic and social revolution. But California's Proposition 187 has made clear that this outlet valve cannot be counted on any longer.

At the outset of the devaluation crisis, President Zedillo reacted with commendable candor. "The development of Mexico demands that we recognize with all realism

that we do not constitute a rich country but a nation of grave needs and wants," he said.

That statement should be a departure point for a rethinking of Mexico's development strategy.

Another should be this warning in a World Bank 1993 strategy paper concerning Mexico: "How the government responds to chronic poverty — and the possibly more visible and politically charged problem of a policy-induced deterioration in the distribution of income — may be critical to the continuing viability of its economic program."

Whatever the details of such a reconsideration, it is evident that the neoliberal economic model which has prevailed in Mexico, with its excessive dependence upon foreign portfolio and direct investment, cannot, in either Mexico or the United States, be politically or socially sustained.

The writer, a research associate at the Economic Policy Institute, contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.

What Does NATO Propose to Be Doing South of the Mediterranean?

By Frederick Bonmart

BRUSSELS — NATO's recent offer of a direct dialogue with five countries south of the Mediterranean raised a ripple of excitement and a number of questions. Was an extension to the south envisaged to complement that to the east? Would the organization take a hand in the faltering Middle East peace process? Did it intend to become involved in violent confrontation in North Africa? Was it only trying to find another role to justify its existence?

Allied diplomats say the initiative was intended merely to achieve better mutual understanding, inform Mediterranean governments about NATO's peacekeeping potential, and demonstrate its interest in security in an unstable region. Extension of this dialogue to other Mediterranean countries was envisaged for the future.

It was in keeping with alliance concerns to strengthen regional stability mentioned at the June and December 1994 foreign ministers' meetings. And action had been urged by French Defense Minister François Léotard at the informal meeting of defense ministers in Seville in September.

This is no doubt true as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. The nub is in what has been left unsaid.

The approach was made to Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Israel. The two countries on the Mediterranean's southern shores omitted from it are Algeria and Libya.

NATO's southern members, in particular France, Italy and Spain, are under increasing economic and demographic pressure from across the water. They worry about infiltration of terrorists and about the dangers to the large numbers of their nationals who live in those countries.

NATO points out that initial contacts are merely at ambassador level in Brussels, and that no further significance should be read into them. But a move such as this is highly political. So it is necessary to be clear about its aim, and to assess consequences.

The approach will be judged in the light of statements about the dangers of international terrorism on the one hand and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction on the other. NATO's secretary-general, Willy Claes, has called fundamentalism the great-

est present threat. In a recent speech he pointed out NATO's ability to act independently of the United Nations if necessary.

The confrontation in Algeria is taking an increasing toll. External force may be considered essential to rescue foreign residents there, and perhaps to safeguard the supply of gas and oil to Europe.

Taken together, all this will have an effect on governments in the countries contacted as well as on those left out, and simultaneously on the various opposition movements, whether violent or democratic. Their interpretation of the NATO move is likely to be far-reaching. The alliance will be understood to be aligning itself with one of the sides in the ongoing troubles, and further action will then be expected of it.

The question that NATO should ask itself is what action it is willing to undertake in support of stability in the region, and whether it is able to carry it out.

Its peacekeeping record in the Yugoslav crisis — the first and only such activity — has come under considerable criticism. NATO has correctly pointed out that this is unjust, as it did in fact carry out all that was asked of it, and its hands were tied by United Nations rulings. But the world has seen intervention as a failure to assume a role that it considers to be one of its major functions in the post-Cold War setting.

This judgment is based on a

ease, but the UNSCOM report of two months ago concluded that "the indications all point to an offensive program."

The UN commission thinks the Iraqis are not now producing germ for delivery, but is certain that Saddam has the equipment, material and expertise on hand to begin production of biological warfare agents as soon as inspectors are thrown out. The facility in Dura now innocently producing hoof-and-mouth vaccines is set up for immediate changeover to bio-war production.

With such a capability at hand, with the will to use terror weaponry already demonstrated by Saddam; with the means of production and delivery awaiting only oil income and a few months' secrecy — is this the moment to suspend the world's economic sanctions on Iraq?

France, Russia and China, eager for business, think so. The United States and Britain think not. Germany wavers.

To encourage Iraq to let his team stay, Mr. Ekus's April report may cite some progress in inspections. A drumbeat of stories will follow about how poor Iraqis are suffering from the denial of oil income. Don't fall for it. If the world lets heavy money flow to Baghdad while Saddam rules, at least one weapon of mass destruction will soon be in the hands of a proven killer.

The New York Times.

The Iraqi Potential for Germ Warfare

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — With Iraq's nuclear and poison gas production capability limited by the scrutiny of United Nations inspectors, Saddam Hussein is developing the means to produce a terror weapon much harder to fend: the deadly micro-organisms of biological warfare.

Thirty quarts of cultures of cholera, tuberculosis and plague bacteria were found in the past few months. At the Sepp Institute in Methana, in underground storage at the Ghazi Research Institute in Amiriya, at Salman-Pak and Al-Hakem, the fermentors, lyophilizers for freeze-drying and centrifuges for separation of bacteria are in place.

Hundreds of biologists are kept on Iraq's payroll awaiting orders from a woman named Ribah Rashid Taha Azawi.

Dr. Taha, 42, trained in toxicology in Britain, is known to some Iraqis as "Dr. Germ." Western intelligence agencies knew her as developer of Saddam's botulinum toxin stockpile in the 1980s, but she now says she is developing innocent vaccines. Even so, she regularly frustrates the four members of the UN Special Commission (Unscm) investigating germ warfare.

Ambassador Rolf Ekus of Sweden, who heads the commission, complains of foot-dragging, belated admissions about sites and deliberate withholding of facts about experiments on animals. "It's like '1001 Nights,'" he told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

He told me at his UN office in New York before flying to Baghdad on Wednesday. "Their story changes every night. They admit only what we can prove."

International Herald Tribune
ESTABLISHED 1857
KATHARINE GRAHAM, ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER
Chairman

RICHARD McLEAN, Publisher & Chief Executive
JOHN VINOCUR, Executive Editor & Vice President
WALTER WELLS, News Editor • **SAMUEL ABT**, KATHARINE KNORR and
CHARLES MITCHELLMORE, Deputy Editors • **CARL GEWIRTZ**, Associate Editor
• **ROBERT J. DONAHUE**, Editor of the Editorial Pages • **JONATHAN GAGE**, Business and Finance Editor
• **RENÉ BONDY**, Deputy Publisher • **JAMES McLEOD**, Advertising Director
• **JUANITA CASPAR**, International Development Director • **DIDIER BRUN**, Circulation Director

Directeur de la Publication: Richard O. Simmons
Directeur Adjoint de la Publication: Katharine P. Durrow

International Herald Tribune, 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.
Tel.: (1) 46 37 93 03. Fax: (1) 46 37 08 51. Adv.: (1) 46 37 02 12. Internet: HTT@earthlink.net
Abn. Dir. Soc. R. 47 D. Arnsperg, 50 Gloucester Rd., Hong Kong. Tel.: (852) 472 7268. Fax: (852) 274 2144
Gen. Mgr. Germany: T. Schiller, Friedrichstr. 15, 10023 Frankfurt. Tel.: (49) 72 67 55. Fax: (49) 72 73 01
Pres. U.S.: Michael Corman, 350 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Tel.: (212) 752 3840. Fax: (212) 753 8225
U.K. Advertising Office: 63 Long Acre, London WC2E, Tel.: (071) 836 4802. Fax: (071) 240 2254
S 4 au capital de 1,200,000 F. RCS Nanterre B 23202126. Communique Paritaire No. 61337
© 1995, International Herald Tribune. All rights reserved. ISSN: 0244-0052

سكرا من الاصل

OPINION/LETTERS

Moscow Must Understand A 'Cold Peace' Won't Do

By Flora Lewis

NEW YORK — The war still isn't over in Chechnya. But horrifying as it has been, it has demonstrated more dramatically than ever that the real problem is Russia. What happens in Russia in the next couple of years will have a heavy and perhaps decisive impact on the kind of world we live in for at least the next generation. And the outlook right now is bad.

President Bill Clinton, at the urging of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, finally got around to speaking on the telephone to President Boris Yeltsin to tell him how much the outrageous Chechnya war is undermining Russia abroad. But that's not enough. Western attachment to Mr. Yeltsin as the "only viable possibility" has become a burden not only for Russian democrats but also for Washington and the West.

The New York Times timidly suggested in an editorial ("About Yeltsin's Health," *IHT*, Feb. 15) that the secrecy about Mr. Yeltsin's evident physical problems looks too much like the Kremlin's traditional closed operation to be reassuring about democracy and real leadership change.

But this justified doubt also shows how much of a mistake it is for the United States to be placing all its bets on one man in Moscow. The man hasn't changed, but his policy has. The reformers and democrats who rallied to him after the 1991 putsch in Moscow have almost all left him. His main backer now is Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the ultraright-wing nationalist, authoritarian and anti-Semite.

Alexander Yakovlev, the intellectual sire of Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika reforms, is devoted now to organizing a new party to be called Social Democracy because, he says, socialism is finished. He, like practically all the others who launched the reforms that destroyed communism, is deeply worried that Russia now is headed toward a new kind of fascist dictatorship.

Strange, and very nasty, things are going on in Moscow. David Remnick, in the Feb. 20-27 issue of *The New Yorker*, gives a vivid, frightening account of the new rich, or powerful, are sending their money and sometimes families abroad, buying real estate in the United States, the French Riviera, Cyprus and elsewhere for safety's sake.

A couple of years ago, Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, who was under heavy attack for being too complacent toward the United States, made a speech in Stockholm

belligerently threatening the West, which he quickly explained was meant as a warning and a joke about what could happen. Now he says almost the same things and makes clear it isn't a joke at all.

Friends of the United States in Russia are upset about what they call anti-Americanism in their country. This is not only stirred by the nationalists who profess to see a plot to keep Russia down, but also by a feeling of betrayal among democrats who say that Washington no longer seems to care about its principles where Russia is concerned.

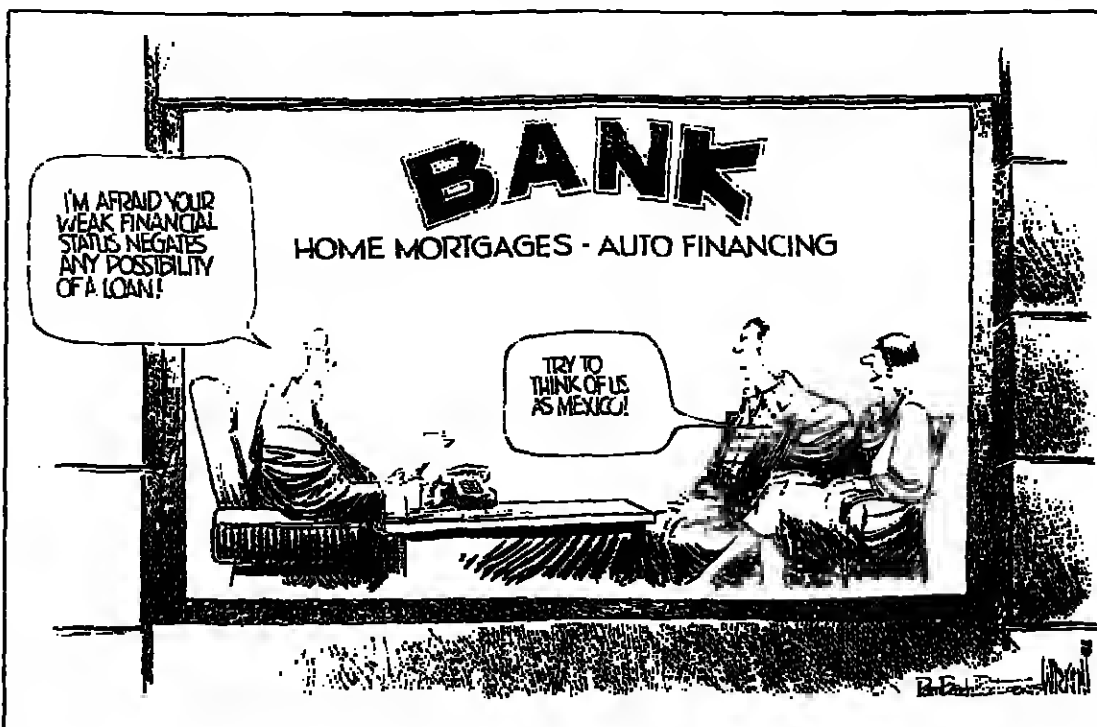
The key test is whether scheduled elections are properly prepared and held. Mr. Yeltsin is concentrating his political efforts in the provinces and the regions because, he says, "that's where the real power is" and that is where a healthier new generation of leaders is arising. But Mr. Yeltsin is now so unpopular, and so surrounded by corrupt, thuggish types, that there is widespread doubt he will keep his promise of elections.

This is a time to develop "political deterrence," Mr. Yeltsin must be told that if he doesn't show he is organizing elections and go through with them, he will forfeit U.S. indulgence. Mr. Clinton must make that clear, as he grumbles about the war in Chechnya.

There is already a dispute about just what Mr. Yeltsin's role should be when the Group of Seven industrial states meet in Halifax this summer. He wants to be treated as a fully equal partner. Even sooner, there is an issue about Russia's participation in the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. There will be a ceremony in London on May 7, in Paris in the morning and Berlin in the afternoon of May 8 — the day the armistice was signed in Rheims — and in Moscow on May 9. Stalin refused to accept the May 8 armistice and insisted on a German capitulation to Soviet generals in Berlin May 9, the official day the war ended for Russians.

There should be smooth partnership to commemorate the victory when the West and the Soviets were allies. But it should be made clear that the West won't stand still for the "cold peace" Mr. Yeltsin threatened last November, as the Cold War followed the wartime alliance. It is vital not to isolate Russia now, and just as vital not to rely on Mr. Yeltsin. There are alternatives, but they must not be left to helpless intimidation because the West no longer cares.

© Flora Lewis



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Fear of Growth

Bravo for Guy Molyneux's thoughtful and provocative article ("When Productivity Is Up but Pay Isn't, Democratic Civilization Is Down," *Opinion*, Feb. 15). He said what needs to be said: we are afraid and our fear saps our will.

Franklin Roosevelt saw this clearly in 1932: "The only thing which we have to fear is fear itself... which paralyzes." Then, at least, the fear was of evident dangers that anyone could understand: unemployment, bankruptcy and foreclosure — failed banks and ruined lives. Now the fear is of the very growth that we once so avidly sought.

Our leaders have come to see growth and employment as incompatible with stable prices, when forced to choose, they choose unemployment every time, for they fear unemployment less than they fear inflation. After all, they are the ones who have the money; they don't want it to lose value. They may talk bravely about austerity, who do not have to worry about being thrown out onto the street when employment falls.

Mr. Molyneux was writing about the United States, but this strange phenomenon — fear of growth — is not limited to that country. I doubt whether there is an industrialized country in the world today where, after the required ritual wringing of hands over massive unemployment, the authorities do not then implement "economically sound" policies:

policies that strengthen currencies at the expense of employment. Not only do they admire their own courage for doing so, they also expect the world to admire them. And the world does.

Taking our next from William Jennings Bryan, we may well ask ourselves whether the hopes and aspirations of the great mass of mankind should be crucified on a cross of "sound monetary and fiscal policy."

JOHN E. RAY,
Fontenay-Trésigny, France.

Boos for a Stage Set

Regarding "Lucia Returns to Paris" (*Stage/Entertainment*, Feb. 1): I was very surprised that your opera critic, David Stevens, did not give us his personal appreciation of the Serhan-Dudley setting of the Opéra Bastille's new "Lucia di Lammermoor." He hid behind the boos of the audience, saying this setting was not what Donizetti had in mind.

As an opera lover for over 35 years, I can state quite unequivocally that this is the worst opera stage set I have ever been forced to endure. In a week when a great deal of Auschwitz was seen on television, I consider I was cheated of the price of my seat by being subjected to this concentration camp setting. The bank beds were reminiscent of those unbearable death camps. At best we were in Groyzny or Sarajevo.

The Opéra Bastille is already in deep trouble, drifting without direction. If it continues in this vein, it will find itself without an audience at all.

DIANA BECKETT,
Boulogne-sur-Seine, France.

A Great Playwright's Plot For Revival of Broadway

By Frank Rich

SEATTLE — Although even at home in New York he is not a household name, there may be no one alive who more embodies Broadway than the playwright Arthur Laurents. His first drama, "Home of the Brave," opened there 30 years ago. Two of his musicals, "West Side Story" and "Gypsy," were signature works of Broadway's final golden era, the 1950s. Even his flops, from the 1964 "Anyone Can Whistle" to the 1991 "Nick and Nora," are legends.

That is why I wasn't surprised to hear that Mr. Laurents, now 77, is behind an undercover effort to save Broadway. And given Broadway's current inhospitality to new American dramas, it was also no surprise to discover that I'd have to track him down 3,000 miles from Times Square. He goes where the work is, the Seattle Repertory Theater is giving his newest play, "Jolson Sings Again," the premiere that Broadway can no longer muster.

The Jolson of his sardonic title is Larry Parks, the actor who starred in Hollywood's "Al Jolson Story" and later sang to a congressional committee, naming names during the McCarthy-era witch-hunts.

Mr. Laurents, blacklisted himself not long after he wrote the movie "Rope" for Alfred Hitchcock, sees in that dark past an alarming correspondence to the America of today.

"People are afraid to speak out... and very leery of dissenting," he said after a matinee last weekend. "There are still witch-hunts. Joycelyn Elders was removed by a witch-hunt." Even as he spoke, headlines told of Dr. Henry Foster, the nominee to replace Dr. Elders as U.S. surgeon general, being hammered by the far right with the McCarthyesque question of whether he was now or had ever been an abortionist.

At this time of cultural warfare, the liberal, gay Mr. Laurents has no shortage of causes. But the one that consumes him most may be the loneliest and most quixotic of all — his mission to raise the level of the culture itself by making Broadway, once the birthplace of classics by Eugene O'Neill and Tennessee Williams, safe again for "the new American play."

It is a fight that many in the theater have abandoned. "Carnival musicals," as Mr. Laurents dismisses them, have effectively made the New York theater district indistinguishable from the rest of America's Disneyfied cultural landscape, driving even a writer as mainstream as Neil Simon off Broadway. Yet Mr. Laurents, working with his old friend and collaborator Stephen Sondheim, has come up with a scheme he thinks can turn back the clock.

Starting with the indisputable premise that new American plays cannot fill the perennially dark houses on Broadway unless they are cheaper to produce and therefore cheaper for audiences to see, the two men have pooled their clout to pay unofficial visits to union leaders, theater owners and anyone else who has added to the bloated costs. To each, the two men ask: What financial sacrifices will you make to revive American drama?

The months of small meetings are leading to a bigger one, an "open forum" at which all the Broadway constituencies will put their cues on the table before the press. Why might this work? "Delicate blackmail," Mr. Laurents explained. The producer who won't lower ticket prices or the union that won't reduce featherbedding or the publication that refuses to lower ad rates will be publicly branded a spoiler of the new American play's potential Broadway comeback.

The shrewd timing for the forum is late May, just before negotiations with the stagehands' union that many think will shut down Broadway in a strike. Mr. Laurents, undaunted, found the stagehands a particular cause for optimism: "Steve and I were ready to cry, they were so decent." Still, Mr. Laurents's next two plays are already committed to off-Broadway's Manhattan Theater Club and the Seattle Rep. Why should he bother to save Broadway at all?

"New York is still the most important cultural center of the world," he answered. "And Broadway is still the arena. Even if you fail there, you're noticed."

But Mr. Laurents, no less pugnacious now than when he took on the blacklist, hardly intends to fail. In this embattled time for culture in the past, he is an inspiring reminder that artists can fight, and sometimes even win.

The New York Times.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

BOOKS

AMERICAN EMPRESS: The Life and Times of Marjorie Merriweather Post.

By Nancy Rubin. 445 pages. \$27.50. Villard.

Reviewed by Carolyn See

THIS voluble, chatty, detail-filled story of the Post Toasties heiress is as accessible as a novel and full of "small world," "You don't say!" facts. Did we all know that Postum (the strange grain beverage some people drink instead of coffee) was invented by C. W. Post, Marjorie's dad and a cereal magnate, because the stuff he got at the Kellogg sanitarium wasn't to his liking? Did we know that C. W. Post, after he got over a bout of neurasthenia, actually wrote a pamphlet called "The Road to Wellville?"

This book answers another burning question: Which came first, Post Toasties or Grape-Nuts? And how come there's a frozen-food aisle in every supermarket? The answer to that one is that after Marjorie Merriweather Post came into her fortune and was cruising with E. F. Hutton (her second husband) on their 350-foot yacht, they were served an exceptionally fine goose. They were anchored off Gloucester, Massachusetts,

but once there came into contact with Christian Science. He began to think positively, then he felt better, then he invented that Postum and those cereals. In less than two decades, Marjorie, who had licked Postum labels in the family barn, would be in finishing school. At the age of 27, when her father died, she became a fabulously wealthy heiress. The night before her wedding to her first husband, Mr. Close, she heard two women talking trash about her: "Well, she's a cute little thing considering who she is and where she's from." She lived her life to get even — and she did.

She was so American! She loved opulence and beautiful clothes and dancing and cruising and parties. But she was earnest and altruistic. She slept eight hours a night, turning in punctually at 11 even from her own parties. She believed in fresh air and exercise and never lost her Midwestern twang. But with all that propriety and love of whole grain she spent the greater part of her life turning herself into her idea of American royalty. She and Hutton were a new-rich couple in the Roaring Twenties and, like Gatsby, they envisioned an ide-



al of materialistic bliss and then stuck to that dream forever.

The author makes much of the fact that 75 or 100 years later Marjorie Post would have been a genuine tycoon, but during the time slots in which she lived she was only allowed to be wife, mother, hostess, philanthropist. She seems to have given these roles her best shot. Her third husband, Joseph Davies, was appointed the second U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union in the late '30s. She gave great state dinners and brought American cream and vegetables with her and tried not to get distressed by Stalin's purges. She also bought a fortune's worth of czarist antiques, and she and her husband got their story told in a movie, "Mission to Moscow." Fun! But she dumped Davies when he got cranky, married again (to a man who happened to be gay), had several nice beaux and — if the author is telling the whole truth — had remarkably stable and affectionate relationships with her children and grandchildren.

I've left out at least half the book, which is an inventory of Marjorie's estates, gowns, gardens, furnishings, palaces and resort homes, which some people will read with avid interest but which only fills me with a resentment about my blameless dad, who spent most of his time picking up World War II showgirls when he could have been out in the barn simmering barley or wheat and molasses. My dad was fond of saying that money wasn't everything. This book will make you wonder whether he was right.

Carolyn See reviews books regularly for The Washington Post.

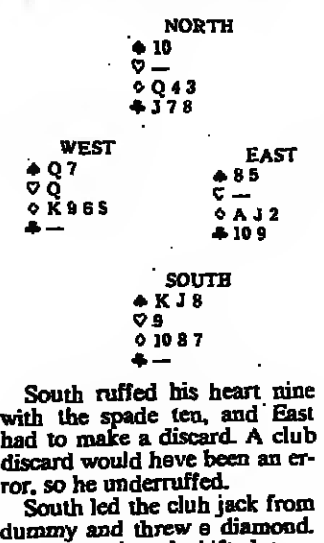
BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

ON the diagrammed deal North made use of a negative double. This landed South in two spades.

West led the heart king and won, shifting to the club eight. South put up dummy's king. East took the ace and shifted to a trump, won with the ace in the closed hand, South cashed the

heart ace, ruffed a heart, and returned to his hand with a club to the queen reaching this ending:



South ruffed his heart nine with the spade ten, and East had to make a discard. A club discard would have been an error, so he underuffed.

South led the club jack from dummy and threw a diamond. West ruffed and shifted to a diamond. East was able to win with the diamond jack, cash the diamond ace and lead the club that he had preserved. This promoted his partner's spade queen as the setting trick.

Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER
LIVING IN THE U.S.
NOW PRINTED IN
NEW YORK
FOR SAME DAY
DELIVERY IN KEY CITIES
TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL
1-800-882-2884
(IN NEW YORK, CALL 212-752-3890)

We can't keep on meeting like this.

In planes. In hotels. In the street. Oh it's exciting every time we feel your hands on us, your eyes on us. And we know it does something special for you as well. Couldn't we see if we can turn this into something more serious? Here's an offer that should make us irresistible—the International Herald Tribune for three months, or even a year, for as little as half the newsstand price! So fax or mail the coupon now.

New Subscriber Offer

Mail or fax to: International Herald Tribune, 131, avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France.
For full information: Fax (+33-1) 46 37 06 51

Yes, I want to start receiving the International Herald Tribune every day.

The subscription term I prefer is (check box):

12 months (+ 2 months free) 17-2-95

3 months (+ 2 weeks free)

My check is enclosed (payable to the International Herald Tribune).

Please charge my: ☐ American Express ☐ Diners Club ☐ VISA ☐ Access ☐ MasterCard ☐ Eurocard

Credit card charges will be made in French Francs at current exchange rates.

Card No. _____

Exp. date _____ Signature _____

For business orders, please indicate your VAT number:

(IHT VAT number: FR 473302112611)

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms.

Family name _____

First name _____

Mailing Address: ☐ Home ☐ Business

City/Code _____ Country _____

Tel. _____ Fax _____

Herald Tribune

THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

LEISURE

Homework for Road Warriors

By Roger Collis
International Herald Tribune

THE military maxim "Time spent in reconnaissance is never wasted" is sound advice for today's road warriors—especially when traveling to daunting or unfamiliar destinations. Travel should come down to careful planning and attention to detail. Always expect the unexpected.

There are two kinds of travel guides: those that help you plan your trip and how to travel and those that show you how to survive and enjoy when you arrive. The trick is to build your own data base from several guides (not all are best for every destination) in order to get the right mix of background, insights and updates.

TIME (Travel Information Manual) is an essential source book for the frequent traveler. It is an austere 380-page trade lexicon of official requirements, procedures and restrictions for entering (and leaving) more than 250 countries, published every month in the Netherlands. The book provides exhaustive detail on immigration rules, passports, visas, health certificates, customs and currency rules for all nationalities. (TIME, PO Box 902, NL-2130 EA Hooftdorp, Netherlands. Tel: (31) 2503 73525; Fax: (31) 2503 73515)

The best way to plan your own flights is to subscribe to a hard copy or electronic edition of an ABC or OAG guide.

ABC/OAG Desktop Flight Guides are published monthly by Worldwide and North American editions. The monthly OAG Pocket Flight Guide comes in four editions: Europe/Africa/Middle East, North America, Latin America/Caribbean and Asia/Pacific. They all show flights to major cities in other regions.

OAG Travel Service—the on-line version for personal computers—lists more than 2 million flights and a million fares from 700 airlines. Fares are updated daily and schedules are refreshed weekly. You can check availability of airline seats or hotel rooms and in some countries make reservations yourself.

The system is user-friendly. You tell the computer where you are, where you want to go and roughly when. You can move back and forth between fares and schedules.

OAG Flight Disk (Premier World Edition), updated monthly with a new disk, gives you access to every domestic and international flight. You can search for flights by departure or arrival times, request "preferred airlines" and use a split-screen to work out your own flight co-

nections. You can put in your own information: meetings, phone numbers, where you're staying, and then print a customized schedule. (OAG: (44) 1582 695 050 or fax (44) 1582 695 049)

When it comes to specific cities, I recommend the **Insight Cityguide** series. These are colorful 250- to 300-page books packed with evocative photographs. They are sketchy on hard travel data and out always up-to-date, but are excellent back-

The Frequent Traveler

ground reading on people, politics, history, culture, cuisine and sight-seeing. So far, there are 49 titles (Insight publishes nearly 300 titles, mainly country guides)—21 cities in Europe plus numerous others. The 30 to 40 pages of "Travel Tips" at the back of each book might be worth tearing out and taking with you.

Most of these cities are covered by the smaller, more compact, **Insight Pocket Guide** series, which focus more on practical advice in getting around, with recommendations for sight-seeing, hotels, restaurants and shops.

Lonely Planet guides, with more than 150 titles, have been a byword among backpackers and budget travelers since they first appeared 20 years ago. But they are a valuable source of accurate, no-nonsense information for business as well. Lonely Planet's **Arah Gulf States** "travel survival kit" is the best guide to the region you can find. New titles include Japan, Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong and Macau, and Canton.

The problem with most guides is that they cover the beaten track, but stop short on how to cope in more daunting destinations. You need an inside track—not only how to enjoy, but how to survive.

This is the aim of **Inside Tracks**, a "destination data base" consisting of con-

cise guides to 66 cities. Each guide runs to nine pages with maps, but no ads or pictures. Along with more predictable places, destinations include such gritty places as Accra, Addis Ababa, Algiers, Amman, Cairo, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Harare, Lagos, Libreville, Lusaka and Managua.

What makes **Inside Tracks** especially useful is that reports are written by a network of local correspondents and are updated every six months. Correspondents range from diplomats and doctors to politicians and business people.

The guides start by summarizing the place's appeal (or lack thereof): Getting Along is about the mood and way of life. Getting Around covers practical points such as airport procedures, taxi cabs and cost of transport; Getting Going is the place itself, what is best to see and avoid; Good Food, notes on local cuisine and a few spots where you will find it; Good Nights, with emphasis on the local scene; Good Shopping, from stores to local markets; Good Timing, what to expect whenever you come. Reports are short on fantasy and long on facts.

Each guide costs £3 (\$4.65), plus postage per order of 50 pence airmail in Europe, £1 elsewhere, from **Inside Tracks**, 10 Hartswood Road, London W12 9NQ; tel/fax: (44) 81 749 0748.

THE guides that complement all others are **The Rough Guides**, with nearly 100 titles but only 11 city editions. The guides are only "rough" when it comes to paper and because they are aimed at the budget traveler. But they are no less sophisticated. The books are light and easy to pack and are full with an eclectic mix of culture, convention and "low life." You'll find no-nonsense sections on music and dance, theater and museums along with guides to street markets, bars, cafes and night spots, ouggets of history and politics.

A new generation of digital mapping programs emerging in the United States allows you to plan your trip by computer. A good way to start is with **Global Explorer** (\$69 on CD-ROM for Windows) from Delorme Mapping, Lower Main St., Box 298, Freeport, ME 04032. Fax: (207) 865 9291. This enables you to explore the streets of 100 cities with the help of indexed references to more than 120,000 places shown on topographic maps. The maps enable you to zoom in and out through 15 levels of magnification.

With software like this, you may become a state-of-the-art armchair traveler.

HEAR THIS

■ Despite an increase in miracles, an upward trend in cults and conspiracies and the discovery of new animal species, 1994 was not as strange as the previous year—in fact, 2 percent less strange, according to the *Fortune Times*, a journal of odd phenomena. But then 1993 was a very weird year.

THE ARTS GUIDE

AUSTRIA

Vienna
Kunsthaus Wien, tel: (1) 712-0495, open daily. To April 30: "Jean Dubuffet: Eine Retrospektive," 140 paintings, sculptures, drawings and collages, covering the years 1919 to 1965.

BELGIUM

Antwerp
Musée des Beaux-Arts, tel: (3) 238-7809, closed Mondays. To Feb. 28: "Ernst Barlach: A retrospective of the works of the German sculptor who was associated with Expressionism. Includes works reflecting his sojourn to Russia and his experience in World War I.

BRITAIN

London
Dulwich Picture Gallery, tel: (181) 693-6000, closed Mondays. To April 30: "Poussin: Works on Paper." More than 60 drawings spanning Poussin's career, including his early work in Paris, his maturity in Rome and the rigorous drawings of the 1640s onward.
Museum of Mankind, tel: (71) 323-8525, open daily. To Dec. 10: "The Ainu of Japan." A collection of approximately 130 objects from the late 18th and early 20th centuries documenting the life of the minority living in the northern island of Hokkaido.
Royal Academy of Arts, tel: (71) 494-5615, open daily. Continuing to April 14: "Nicolas Poussin." More than 80 paintings by the 17th-century French painter. Poussin drew his subject matter from biblical, historical or mythological sources. Related exhibitions are organized at the Wallace Collection, the Dulwich Picture Gallery and the National Gallery.

Mancheste

The Whitworth Art Gallery, tel: (61) 273-4855, closed Sundays. To April 17: "Master Drawings from the National Portrait Gallery." More than 100 portraits, watercolors, sketches and caricatures demonstrate the role of drawing in British portraiture. Includes works by Hilliard, Gainsborough, Millais, Sargent and Kitaj.

CANADA

Quebec
Musée du Québec, tel: (418) 646-3330, closed Mondays. To May 14: "L'Art Québécois de L'Estampe: 1850-1990." Bears witness to the development of the art of printmaking in Quebec. Illustrates, through major contemporary art movements (Surrealism, Abstract art, Pop art, Op art, Hyper Realism, etc.), the main creative manifestations which have marked Quebec art.

FRANCE

Paris
Centre Culturel de Boulogne-Billancourt, tel: (1) 47-12-77-85, closed Sundays. To May 13: "Magnard des Pains d'Indochine." More than 300 items documenting ways of life and culture in the mountains, valleys and plateaux of former Indochina.
Musée Carnuschi, tel: (1) 45-63-50-75, closed Mondays. To May 14: "Japon, Savoirs et Sérénité: La Céramique du Japon dans les Collections du Musée des Arts Asiatiques." An exhibition of utensils used in traditional Japanese ceremonies, including Chinese and Japanese ceramic tea bowls, sake cups and flower vases.
Musée d'Orsay, tel: (1) 40-49-48-14, closed Mondays. Continuing to April 30: "Whistler, 1834-1903." Features 66 paintings, 1903. "The Little White Girl" and including "The Artist's Mother," 100 drawings, engravings and watercol-



Barbara Hepworth's sculpture, in Connecticut.

ors, as well as 20 pastels by the American painter.

GERMANY

Berlin
Amerika Haus, tel: (30) 310-0010, open daily. To March 14: "Dennis Stock: Made in USA." A view of the American way of life by this photographer who moved to fame in the early 1950s while working for the Magnum Photo Agency. The exhibit displays black-and-white photographs of state fairs, mobile home retirement communities, and hitchhiking hippies.
Kunstbibliothek, tel: (30) 266-2028, closed Saturdays and Sundays. To March 5: "Reisekatalog des Architekten Friedrich August Stüler." 150 sketches from Stüler's travels; it includes works from the Kunstbibliothek, Berlin, the Prussian Castle Foundation, and the Garten Berlin-Brandenburg.
Neue Nationalgalerie, tel: (30) 266-28-53, closed Mondays. Continuing to April 17: "George Grosz: Berlin-New York." A retrospective of 50 paintings and 250 works on paper. Grosz was a founding member of the Dada group in Berlin in the 1920s. His works depict life in his native Berlin and in his adopted second home, New York. The exhibition will travel to Düsseldorf.

JAPAN

Tokyo
Iseian Museum, tel: (3) 33-52-11-36, closed Mondays. To Feb. 27: "Robert Longo." This exhibit, dedicated to a colleague and contemporary of Cindy Sherman and Charles Clough, is representative of the art-

let's fascination with contemporary urban situations. The display revolves around an installation titled "Men in the Cities."
National Museum of Modern Art, tel: (3) 3214-2561, closed Mondays. To Feb. 28: "Isamu Noguchi." Features more than 2,500 sketches by the Japanese sculptor.
National Museum of Western Art, tel: (3) 3828-5131, closed Mondays. To March 5: "German Prints During the Reformation." Includes works by Dürer and Cranach.

LUXEMBOURG

Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art, tel: 473-330-214, closed Mondays. To Feb. 28: "J.M.W. Turner: Views of Luxembourg." Approximately 20 watercolors created after Turner's visit to Luxembourg in 1838.

NETHERLANDS

Rotterdam
Museum voor Volkenkunde, tel: (10) 411-2201, closed Mondays. To May 28: "The Emergence of Indonesia: Photographs by Cas Oorthuys and Charles Bruijs." As Indonesia celebrates the 50th anniversary of its independence, a display of 80 photographs, taken in Indonesia between 1947 and 1949, which reflect the decolonization process of this country.

SPAIN

Madrid
Museo del Prado, tel: (1) 420-28-36, closed Mondays. To April 30: To celebrate its 175th anniversary, the Prado displays a range of Spanish drawings selected from its own collections. Drawings dating from the

15th to the 18th century are by Juan Goya, Gaspar Becerra, Juan de Juanes, and Ribera, among others.

SWEDEN

Stockholm
Nationalmuseum, tel: (8) 666-4250, closed Mondays. To May 1: "Stilleben: A selection of works by still life artists from the mid-16th century to the present time. It includes Flemish 'vanitas,' kitchen scenes by Zurbaran, 'natures mortes' by Chardin and 20th-century still lifes by Mondrian, Braque and Picasso, among others.

SWITZERLAND

Pully/Lausanne
Musée d'Art Contemporain, tel: (21) 729-91-48, closed Mondays. To May 15: "Benetton per Toscana." Presents the various media supporting Benetton's advertising campaigns including billboards and catalogues.

UNITED STATES

Chicago
The Art Institute, tel: (312) 443-3500, open daily. Feb. 18 to May 28: "Sustava Collabro: Urban Impressionism." A commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the painter's death, with 89 paintings and 28 works on paper.

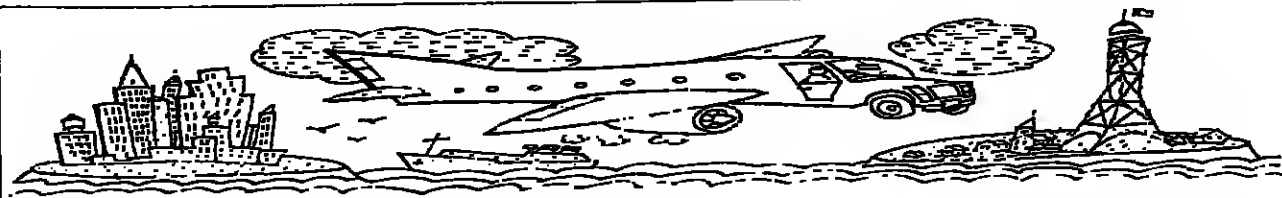
New Haven, Connecticut
Yale Center for British Art, tel: (203) 432-2850, closed Mondays. To April 9: "Barbara Hepworth." More than 70 carvings and bronzes, and 30 drawings spanning nearly 50 years of the British sculptor's career. Barbara Hepworth, together with Henry Moore and Ben Nicholson, brought international recognition to British sculpture. The exhibition will travel to Toronto.

New York
Metropolitan Museum of Art, tel: (212) 570-3791, closed Mondays. To May 14: "R.B. Kitaj: A Retrospective." 100 works by the American artist who lived and worked in London for more than three decades. Themes refer to Kitaj's years as a merchant seaman, to the history of film, and to the recognition of the artist's Jewish heritage. The exhibition will travel to Los Angeles. Coinciding with the Metropolitan retrospective, Marlborough Gallery will be exhibiting recent works until March 4. The New Museum, tel: (212) 219-1222, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To April 9: "Andres Serrano: Works 1963-1994." Features 50 large-scale photographs, including the early allegorical tableaux, the "bodily fluid" series of abstract compositions, the "Morgue" series of human cadavers, and a selection from the "Objects of Desire" series.

CLOSING SOON

To Feb. 19: "Street Style: From Sidewalk to Catwalk, 1940 to Tomorrow." Victoria & Albert Museum, London.
On Feb. 19: "Space, Time and Memory: Photography and Beyond in Japan." Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo.
On Feb. 20: "Kurt Schwitters." Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris.
On Feb. 19: "The Collection of Bolelaw and Line Nawrocki." The National Museum, Warsaw.
On Feb. 19: "Herbert Zangs: Oeuvres 1952-1959." Fondation Cartier pour l'Art Contemporain, Paris.
On Feb. 20: "Countdown to Eternity." Corcoran Gallery, Washington.

AT A GLANCE: GOOD TRAVEL DEALS



Carrier/Hotel	Location	Deal
ALLSON HOTEL	Singapore	Business Package provides room for 350 Singapore dollars (\$240) - plus 10 percent service - welcome drink and fruit platter, American buffet breakfast, late checkout until 3 P.M. and a credit of 30 dollars a night toward food and beverage, phone calls and taxes or laundry. Until March 31.
AIR CANADA/RADISSON HOTELS	Canada	Aeroplan FFP members booking rack, corporate or worldwide-hospitality-program rate at any Radisson in Canada receive 1,000 Aeroplan miles instead of 500. Until April 16.
BEST WESTERN	Massachusetts	Winter Ski Package at Black Swan Inn in Lee, Massachusetts, includes room for two for one night, dinner and Continental breakfast and one-day lift tickets to Jimmy Peak in Hancock or Butternut Basin in Great Barrington for \$199. Until March 31.
HERITAGE HOTEL	Manila	Single and double executive-floor rooms for \$135 a night include Continental breakfast, local telephone calls and pressing of a suit or dress each day.
HILTON	Europe	Two for One weekend promotion offers two nights for price of one, plus breakfast, at hotels in 27 cities.
HILTON	Hong Kong	Executive Privilege Package: 1,750 Hong Kong dollars (\$225) a night for a single or double on executive floor includes breakfast, afternoon tea and cocktails, use of two conference rooms, health club and use of portable phone. Until April 30.
HILTON/CONRAD	Worldwide	Pay with an American Express card and earn both double Hilton H-Honors points and double miles with partner airlines in Double Double Dip promotion. Until April 30.
JAPAN AIRLINES	Worldwide	Members of JAL frequent-flyer programs now earn 1,000 points per stay at 38 Nikko hotels.
MOVENPICK HOTEL	Beijing	Single or twin rooms are \$73 a night, with 10-day advance booking. Until March 31.
OKURA HOTEL	Tokyo	Business Plan offers savings of around 20 percent: a room-only rate of 26,500 yen (\$265) plus tax, or an inclusive rate of 32,000 yen with taxes, service and breakfast. Until March 31.
THE ORIENTAL	Singapore	Executive-floor singles \$145 and doubles \$165 a night with American breakfast, fruit and flowers and 6 P.M. checkout. Until March 31.
PASSAGES	Worldwide	Members of Passages FFP can now earn points with Delta Air Lines, Diners Club and All Nippon Airways.
RAIL PASS	Japan	A seven-day Japan Rail Pass costs 27,800 yen (\$280) for unlimited travel on any JR service, including the Bullet train, except the Nozomi.
RITZ-CARLTON	New York	Winter in the City package for \$350 per night in "superior" room and \$425 per night in Central Park-view room (single or double) includes sweaters, cocktails, American breakfast and use of fitness center. Friday, Saturday or Sunday. Until April 2.

Although the IHT carefully checks these offers, please be forewarned that some travel agents may be unaware of them, or unable to book them.

Herald Tribune

Published with the New York Times and the Washington Post

Power players get more out of iht.

You tell us you spend an enjoyable 30 minutes engrossed in your paper.[†]
You also tell us that on average, you have an annual household income of **US\$ 147,600.***

It seems then, that our pages are the perfect place for you to decide where to start spending some of it. (Our regular Leisure section, perhaps?)
And the perfect place for our advertisers to get more out of the International Herald Tribune, too.

For summaries of the surveys from which these facts are taken, please call, in Europe, James McLeod on (33-1) 46 37 93-81; in Asia, Andrew Thomas on (65) 223 6478; in the Americas, Richard Lynch on (212) 752 3890.

Source: 1. VIVA Survey '92. 2. Reader Survey '94.

INTERNATIONAL

Israel to Ease Border Strictures

Rabin Also Seeks to Create Jobs in Territories

By Clyde Haberman
New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — In an attempt to revive stalled Middle East peace talks, Israel agreed Thursday to loosen border restrictions that have kept many thousands of Palestinians out of work, and said it was ready for "intense negotiations" with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Israelis announced that starting next week they would allow 10,000 laborers from the Gaza Strip and 5,000 from the West Bank to return to jobs that they had held in Israel until the borders were shut last month, after a Palestinian suicide bombing that killed 21 Israelis.

The numbers were far smaller than the 50,000 or more Palestinians who entered Israel each day before the bombing.

But easing the entry ban, if only by a little, was the top priority for Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, and he left a meeting Thursday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin at Gaza's northern edge having accomplished something.

In addition, Mr. Rabin said he was ready to immediately set up at least five industrial parks inside the territories, to create jobs for Palestinians as substitutes for work in Israel.

"If the problem there isn't solved, there will be distress, unemployment and even hunger, and this can create problems that will influence security," the Israeli prime minister said.

Mr. Rabin also said he had suggested that the Palestinians rapidly expand their self-rule authority by taking over the town of Jenin, in the northern tier of the West Bank. The Palestinian Authority led by Mr. Arafat now controls only Gaza and the small West Bank district of Jericho.

But the prime minister was prepared to put the Palestinians in charge only of municipal services and economic affairs, keeping security in Israeli hands. Israel's armed forces would stay in Jenin

as well as in the rest of the West Bank besides Jericho.

From Mr. Arafat's vantage, it was a bad deal. Since his aim is to get the Israeli Army out and to hold Palestinian elections, he did not show "a great deal of enthusiasm" for the proposal, as an Israeli official put it.

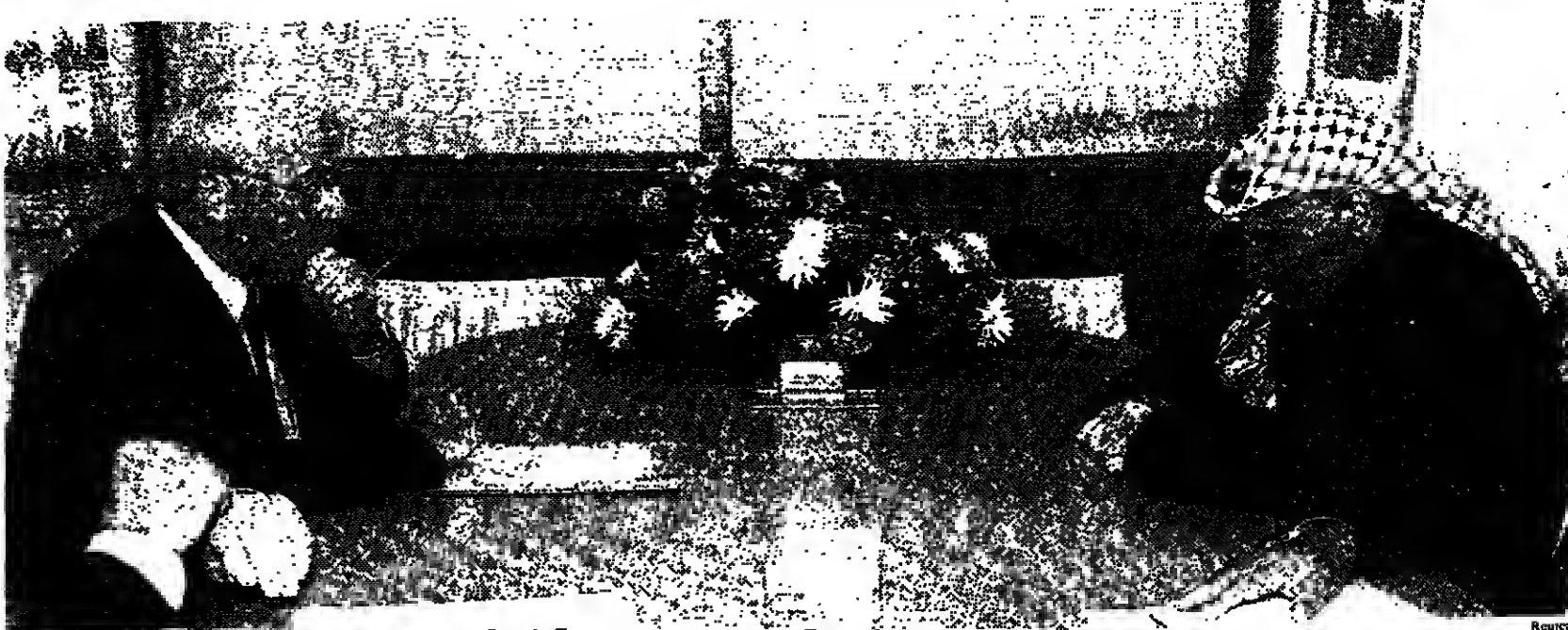
The Palestinian leader's reaction suggested that the two sides still have a long way to go before coming to terms on the basic issue in extending Palestinian self-rule: how to solve the complex problem of moving Israeli soldiers in the West Bank.

Jewish settlements and Arab towns stand explosively cheek by jowl in many places, and a series of Islamic suicide attacks that have claimed almost 60 Israeli lives over the last few months has hardly persuaded Mr. Rabin that he can easily withdraw his soldiers without raising safety fears and damaging his already tenuous standing in opinion polls.

A senior aide to Mr. Arafat, Tayeh Abdul Rahim, said the Palestinian Authority was ready to accept a "gradual redeployment" of soldiers as long as it did not take longer than three months. But an official close to Mr. Rabin said there had been no discussion of that at the meeting Thursday.

Participants said that there were fewer tensions than in other recent meetings between the two leaders. Mr. Arafat avoided reporters, but Mr. Rabin said both sides had agreed to hold "intense negotiations" so as to overcome our differences on security issues, elections redeployment, empowerment.

To the PLO, reaching quick agreement on these matters is crucial, for popular support has been melting away as the months passed without tangible progress on stretching Palestinian rule beyond the narrow, troubled confines of Gaza and Jericho. Elections, for example, are more than seven months overdue, with no date in sight.



Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat meeting Thursday in Gaza, where the Israeli leader agreed to let some Palestinians cross the border to jobs in Israel.

Algerian Islamic Guerrillas Carry Out Raid in Tunisia

By Youssef M. Ibrahim
New York Times Service

PARIS — Algerian Islamic fundamentalists launched an attack on neighboring Tunisia, killing at least five Tunisian border guards before seizing their weapons and car and slipping back into Algerian territory a few days ago, it was confirmed here Thursday by French and Algerian affairs experts.

Tracts from the Armed Islamic Group, one of the most

violent armed groups that has been fighting to topple the Algerian government since 1992, claimed responsibility for the attack.

Tunisia denied the report, saying it was meant to damage the country's stability, which rests in large part on tourism.

Tunisia has been far and away the Arab country that has been most successful in stemming the tide of fundamentalism sweeping the region. It enforces a total separation of Islam from the state, banning

the wearing of the veil by women at work and school and jailing Islamic activists who express religious or political opinions.

But the North African country shares a long border with Algeria, which has been in turmoil for three years.

Although Tunisian authorities have taken draconian measures to prevent any spillover of the conflict, Islamic fundamentalists in Algeria have repeatedly warned Tunisia to stop cooperating with other North

African and Arab countries in the fight against fundamentalism.

A spokesman for the Tunisian government, Moncef Ben Temessek, director of the Tunisian Information Agency, said Thursday that the border incident had been nothing more than a "simple traffic accident."

Algerian affairs experts, however, said an attack was launched last Saturday by the Islamic Armed Group at Tamerza, in the southern part of

Tunisia, to embroil that country in the Algerian conflict and frighten away tourists.

In a fax sent to several Arab dailies, the Armed Islamic Group of Algeria said its guerrillas had carried out the raid, killing seven Tunisian border guards.

The Armed Islamic Group, reckoned to be the most violent of several Islamic armed factions battling the Algerian Army, said its men had infiltrated a few kilometers inside Tunisia.

YELTSIN: Defending a War

Continued from Page 1

protection for domestic industry and said the state must still subsidize agriculture.

He urged restraint on spending, but said the government must find a way to restore the inflation-ravaged savings of millions of Russians, must fully finance the military and must raise salaries because of the high cost of living — a circular prescription for more inflation.

"The social costs of economic policy are still too high," Mr. Yeltsin said, urging a nationwide minimum standard of living and saying, "1995 must become the year of filling economic reform with social content."

But since he first made the same plea in December 1993, the government has done little to change its spending to reduce support of production and create a social security net.

Mr. Yeltsin also railed against crime and corruption, especially in the huge bureaucracy that has been a bodevelling feature of Russia since long before Gogol wrote "Dead Souls."

At the same time, his own presidential apparatus, a form of court, has grown to include several thousand officials who are seeking ways to finance themselves outside the budget and the scrutiny of Parliament.

Mr. Yeltsin blamed soft sentences and weak judges for hindering the fight against crime, though judges argue that many laws needed to deal with the new world of economic crime have never been passed, so cannot be enforced.

On Chechnya, Mr. Yeltsin said, "Our state turned out to be unprepared for effective military action," adding, "This is the cause of casualties, here lies the roots of the violations of the rights of citizens in the course of the military operations."

But he dropped from his text the following: "We must transform the destructive energy of the Chechen crisis into the potential for forthcoming changes in the institutions of power, in the army and in political and state practice."

Mr. Yeltsin also repeated his opposition to NATO expansion.



Boris N. Yeltsin accepting documents from the ultranationalist Vladimir V. Zhirinovskiy on Thursday after the Russian president's state-of-the-nation speech to Parliament.

Moscow in May? Unlikely, Aides Say

By Douglas Jehl
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Aides to President Clinton said Thursday that he was not inclined to accept an invitation to travel to Moscow in May for a summit meeting with President Boris N. Yeltsin.

Even after praising much of what Mr. Yeltsin said in his state of the nation speech before the Parliament on Thursday, the aides said that Mr. Clinton would prefer to delay his next trip to Moscow, for two reasons.

For one, they said, Mr. Clinton wants to avoid any likelihood of being in Russia while troops remain in the secessionist Chechen republic.

Secondly, the date proposed by Mr. Yeltsin

would put Mr. Clinton at the center of ceremonies celebrating the allied victory over Nazi Germany, and the president might then be expected to attend V-E celebrations in other European capitals even as Congress is pressuring him to direct his attention at the United States.

It has been a full month since Mr. Yeltsin extended his invitation. But the White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, would say Thursday only that diplomats from the two countries were still discussing the best time for a meeting between the two leaders.

But Mr. McCurry did suggest that some date after Mr. Yeltsin's May 8 recommendation "might be more helpful in terms of the relationship," particularly "if an impediment like the conflict in Chechnya is successfully resolved."

PESO: Rush to the Credit Line as Currency Weakens

Continued from Page 1

more missed payments by indebted Mexican companies — renewed fears among investors that Mexico's liquidity crisis was escalating and sent the peso into a tailspin against the dollar Wednesday.

In New York, the dollar ended at 6.0850 pesos, up 12 cents on the day. But the dollar was down from a high of about 6.10 pesos earlier in the day, as the diplomatic and financial maneuvering aided the Mexican currency.

Mexican stocks slumped, however, and the anxiety spread to stock markets in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile, whose markets also dropped even though they do not have Mexico's short-term debt problems.

The debt problems largely arose because Mexico ran low on foreign currencies, reflecting its big trade deficit. The country had been importing goods with an overvalued peso, keeping its living standards high but making it vulnerable to a financial crisis as soon as investors began to worry about the foreign reserves.

What is happening in Mexico now is a cash crunch that had been foreseen as sky-high interest rates to protect the peso from falling squeezed Mexico's banks as well as companies. The rates were up to 40 percent Wednesday after the Siskel announcement.

Earlier completion of the rescue package might have forestalled this, because its purpose is to convert short-term foreign debt into loans of three to five years that can be paid back as Mexico's trade deficit narrows and its economy grows. But the delay has sapped confidence in Mexico's financial structure.

"It's not a peso problem any more," said Lawrence Goodman, Latin American specialist at Salomon Brothers Inc. in New York. "It's a liquidity problem now. The government has been helping the banks pay off their tesobonos by exchanging them for short-term peso debt, and now others need cash. It's a problem of too many pesos chasing not enough dollars."

Geoffrey Dennis of Bear Stearns & Co. said he believed Grupo Siskel was trying to force the Mexican government into offering some kind of financial bridge so that it could repay its dollar debt later, when Mexico's currency had recovered and the peso cost of repayment would be reduced.

"We do not believe this is the first of a long series of defaults," Mr. Dennis said. Indeed, several Mexican companies issued statements that they were ready to pay their dollar debts or had already deposited money in American banks to do so.

The tesobono redemption planned for next week is being

done "with the purpose of continuing reducing the number of tesobonos outstanding," the Mexican government said.

A U.S. Treasury official said Washington supported Mexico's plan to redeem the tesobonos. "The Mexican authorities have consulted with us. The Treasury and the Federal Reserve endorse this use of part of the resources that were provided to Mexico earlier," the official said.

Robert D. Hormatz, a former U.S. financial official and the vice chairman of Goldman Sachs (International) Inc., said the redemption plan was "a confidence-builder, because it gives investors a sense of stability in the market, that the government is able to buy back these things."

Mr. Hormatz called the move "a time-honored tradition" that when an issuer thinks the market price of its outstanding bonds is too low, it buys it back. "Just like a stock buyback by a corporation," he said the likely message being sent to markets was, "Look, the Treasury, the Fed and the Mexican authorities are saying there are a lot of bumps, but we are working together."

But a European financial official, who did not want to be identified, said: "The technical measures alone may not do the trick. There is a huge amount of money available, but the real question is how fast Mexico can come up with a convincing economic program."

This will be the third time this year the Mexican government has offered to buy back tesobonos before they mature. According to Bloomberg Business News, on Jan. 16, Mexico's central bank repurchased \$1.06 billion; a week later it bought \$1.43 billion.

The total amount of tesobonos outstanding is more than \$20 billion, Bloomberg added, citing Mexican government data. There are a little more than \$20 billion of tesobonos outstanding, down from \$30 billion at the end of 1994.

By redeeming the tesobonos, the government aims to bolster the peso. Holders of tesobonos have been reluctant to roll over their investments in past weeks, demanding dollars when the securities matured.

KARBALA: Restoring Mosques

Continued from Page 1

gious institutions, by destroying them if necessary.

Among their evidence is the government's urban renewal effort in central Karbala, which has included the razing of historic houses and Shiite community centers around the mosques.

"It is tantamount to someone going to the center of Rome, destroying all the monasteries and the churches and replacing them with casinos and restaurants," said Yusuf Khoie, whose grandfather, Ayatollah Abu Qasim Khoie, was a leading Shiite spiritual figure until his death in 1992.

Mr. Khoie, who runs a London-based foundation, said in a telephone interview that the Iraqi government has rebuffed the foundation's offer to help finance rebuilding of the community centers.

The debate over the development plan is another twist in the government's continuing struggle with its Shiite population, elements of which rose up against Mr. Saddam's rule in

Israel's Ex-Cairo Envoy Named to Amman Post

Reuters

JERUSALEM — Israel has appointed its first ambassador to Jordan, four months after signing a peace treaty with the kingdom, a Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

The former Israeli ambassador to Egypt, Shimon Shamir, will lead for Jordan in a month, pending confirmation by the Foreign Ministry appointments committee, the official said.

March 1991, during the chaotic aftermath to the Gulf War, and briefly controlled major southern cities.

The government has since tried to create an impression of harmony with the Shiites, beginning restoration work on the shrines within months of crushing the rebellion. Today the Hussein and Abbas mosques gleam as brightly as ever.

Reconstruction has been followed by a surge in visits, which peaked last September with the arrival of about 8,000 members of the Shiite Bohra sect, based in Bombay.

But to Mr. Khoie and other opposition critics, the reconstruction belie a government crackdown.

Recent UN reports on human rights in Iraq have cited the regime's failure to account for 103 Shiite religious scholars and family members arrested in March 1991, and there are accusations of government involvement in the death of Mohammed Taqi Khoie, a son of the late ayatollah who died in July in a car crash.

FRANCE: Balladur Unbeatable? Not So Sure Now

Continued from Page 1

government. Although the payments from the company, GS1, a data-processing services company, was not illegal, Mr. Balladur's spokesmen have never explained what he did to earn the salary or accounted for their own earlier denial that he had links with the company at the time. He reportedly was paid 100,000 francs a month.

Regulatory authorities disclosed Thursday that Mr. Balladur has enjoyed a huge advantage over his rivals in television coverage, mainly on France's most-watched station, Channel One. This allegation of favoritism carries a special political tinge because the station is owned by Bouygues, the country's biggest construction company, and construction is a sector deeply implicated in recent corruption scandals.

It is too soon to tell whether

the cumulative impact of these incidents will shift the course of the campaign or even stick to Mr. Balladur, who until now has enjoyed immunity from suspicion of corruption and cronyism.

But the risks that the new mood carries for him were pinpointed by a French journalist, Denis Jeambar of Le Point magazine. In contrast to the ups-and-downs of American presidential elections, the journalist said, "French candidates who lose a commanding lead never get it back."

Mr. Balladur, who has stuck with his bland, almost bloodless style on the assumption that it is reassuring for the French, made a poor impression this week in presenting a vague presidential program.

So far, Mr. Chirac has failed to make much headway with his attacks on Mr. Balladur, partly

because he has to contend with criticism that his personal ambitions have led him to flirt with the French left. His campaign may turn on the impact of a speech Friday laying out his own program.

Although most voters expect Mr. Balladur to become president, there has been consistent evidence in polls that only about one-third intend to vote for him. That leaves a floating vote that might deny him the election.

For investment information
Read
the MONEY REPORT
every Saturday
in the IHT

BRAIN: View of Brain Activity Proves Women and Men Think Differently

Continued from Page 1

that women's brains are better at this task than men's, or vice versa.

Although the men and women used their brains differently, she added, the fact that they sounded out words equally well means that "the brain has a lot of different ways to get to the same result."

Dr. Elizabeth Hampson, a

neuroscientist at the University of Western Ontario, said the finding "provides definitive evidence" that men and women can use their brains differently to perform the same task. "Nothing was conclusive until now," she said. It means, she said, "we should be open to that possibility in other areas of the brain as well."

Dr. Shaywitz said she was

particularly surprised to see differences between men and women in decoding words. Reading, she said, has nothing to do with basic survival skills or reproduction, for which men and women might have developed different brain functions during the course of evolution.

"This is a difference that involves cognition," she said. "And it is the most complex of

human functions. Reading is the pinnacle of what humans can do."

It is a huge step in a comprehensive research program that is allowing scientists to understand why some children and adults have such difficulty learning to read and it has immediate implications for tests for reading disabilities and strategies to overcome them, he said.

The conference,
Europe's leading energy forum,
will be addressed by oil industry
experts from the world over.



OIL & MONEY

London - November 2 & 3, 1995

The Oil Daily Group

Herald Tribune

For further information
on the conference, please contact:

Brenda Erdmann Hagerly
International Herald Tribune
63 Long Acre, London WC2E 9JH, England
Tel: (44 171) 836 4802
Fax: (44 171) 836 0717

سكرا من الاصل

MARKET DIARY

Blue-Chips Inch Up
To a Record High

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — U.S. blue-chip stocks edged up to a second consecutive record high Thursday, but the broader market slumped as investors took profits amid concerns the market may have topped.

A last-minute surge took the Dow Jones industrial average

Foreign Exchange

135 points higher to 3,987.52, but losing issues outnumbered gainers by a 13-to-8 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Dow was underpinned by sentiment that corporate earnings would benefit from a sustained economic expansion, but the broader market was unconvincing.

"The market's had a fairly extended advance without much of a comeback," said Rick Harrison, market analyst at Interstate/Johnson Lane. "I don't think it's a foregone conclusion we'll go through 4,000 here."

Many investors are skeptical about whether the Federal Reserve Board has finished raising interest rates. Higher rates can choke off corporate profit.

White House Press Secretary, Robert F. Kennedy, said Thursday that the central bank's rate increases two weeks ago may be the last in this economic cycle, the Fed chairman, Alan Greenspan, said Wednesday that he was still concerned about inflation and questioned recent signs that the economy was slowing.

A weak dollar and a downturn in Treasury bond prices also dragged on the stock market. The price of the benchmark 30-year issue slipped 5/32 point, to 100 20/32, taking the yield to 7.57 percent, up from 7.56 percent Wednesday.

RJR Nabisco was the most active issue on the Big Board, slipping 1/4 to 5 1/2 a day after announcing its first common stock dividend since 1989 and proposing a reverse stock split to shrink the number of shares outstanding.

Hewlett-Packard led a rally in technology issues, rising 10 1/2 to 115 1/2 after reporting stronger first-quarter net income than analysts expected, marking the fifth straight quarter of results that exceeded expectations.

Hewlett-Packard said its printer business remained strong, which lifted Adobe Systems 2 1/2 to 34 1/2 because Adobe receives royalties from laser printer makers that use its Postscript printer language.

Motorola rose 2 1/2 to 64 1/2, and Intel rose 1/2 to 79 1/2.

Telephone stocks were weak with AT&T losing 1 to 51 1/2 on expectations for the company to lower its rates to compete with MCI. MCI fell 1/2 to 19 1/2.

Chemical stocks were weak, with Dow Chemical losing 1 1/2 to 65 1/2 a day after losing a liability case related to breast implants it manufactures.

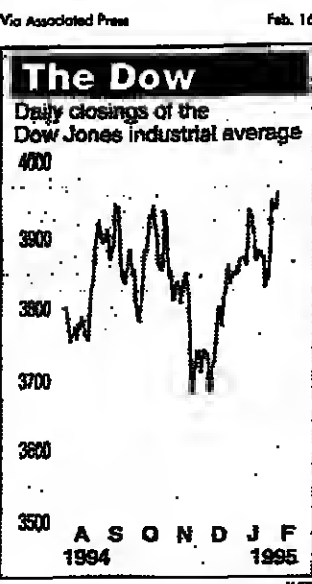
Monsanto lost 1/2 to 76 1/2, and Union Carbide dropped 1/2 to 28 1/2.

Baxter International rose 1/2 to 31 after it said its health-care unit was negotiating a distribution agreement with Imco Corp. for its Prosorba product. Imco rose 1/2 to 41 1/2.

Sears rose 1/2 to 47 1/2 after it said it would exchange all of its so-called mandatorily exchangeable preferred shares for common shares. Sears said the exchange should not affect earnings per share.

YPF Sociedad's American depositary receipts lost 1/2 to 19 in step with weakness in the Argentine stock market.

(AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)



NYSE Most Actives

Vol.	High	Low	Chg.
RJR Nab	52 1/2	52 1/2	-1/4
HPQ	115 1/2	115 1/2	+10 1/2
INTC	79 1/2	79 1/2	+1/2
IBM	100 1/2	100 1/2	-1/2
MSFT	34 1/2	34 1/2	+1/2
GOOG	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
AMZN	21 1/2	21 1/2	+1/2
WMT	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
DIS	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
BA	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2

NASDAQ Most Actives

Vol.	High	Low	Chg.
INTC	79 1/2	79 1/2	+1/2
HPQ	115 1/2	115 1/2	+10 1/2
IBM	100 1/2	100 1/2	-1/2
MSFT	34 1/2	34 1/2	+1/2
GOOG	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
AMZN	21 1/2	21 1/2	+1/2
WMT	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
DIS	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
BA	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2

AMEX Most Actives

Vol.	High	Low	Chg.
INTC	79 1/2	79 1/2	+1/2
HPQ	115 1/2	115 1/2	+10 1/2
IBM	100 1/2	100 1/2	-1/2
MSFT	34 1/2	34 1/2	+1/2
GOOG	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
AMZN	21 1/2	21 1/2	+1/2
WMT	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
DIS	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2
BA	28 1/2	28 1/2	-1/2

Market Sales

NYSE	360.99	450.15
mex	17.40	22.29
asdaq	309.23	362.70
in millions.		

Dow Jones Averages

Open	High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3987.52	3987.52	3987.52	-1.75
Trans	127.92	127.92	127.92	-1.75
Comp	1247.13	1247.13	1247.13	-1.75

Standard & Poor's Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	514.25	514.25	+1.25
Trans	514.25	514.25	+1.25
Comp	514.25	514.25	+1.25

NYSE Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Comp	34.25	34.25	+0.08
Indus	34.25	34.25	+0.08
Trans	34.25	34.25	+0.08

NASDAQ Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Comp	79.12	79.12	+1.25
Indus	79.12	79.12	+1.25
Trans	79.12	79.12	+1.25

AMEX Index

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Comp	47.50	47.50	+1.25
Indus	47.50	47.50	+1.25
Trans	47.50	47.50	+1.25

Dow Jones Bond Averages

Class	Chg.
30 Yrs	+0.01
20 Yrs	+0.01
10 Yrs	+0.01

NYSE Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
180	147	13
180	147	13
180	147	13

AMEX Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
24	20	1
24	20	1
24	20	1

NASDAQ Diary

Advanced	Declined	Unchanged
24	20	1
24	20	1
24	20	1

Spot Commodities

Commodity	Today	Prev.
Crude oil	21.00	21.00
Gold	374.00	374.00
Silver	5.00	5.00

EUROPEAN FUTURES

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Mar	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
Apr	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
May	1400	1400	1400	-0.25

Metals

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Mar	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
Apr	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
May	1400	1400	1400	-0.25

Financial

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Mar	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
Apr	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
May	1400	1400	1400	-0.25

Stock Indexes

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Mar	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
Apr	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
May	1400	1400	1400	-0.25

Dividends

Company	Per	Ann	Rec	Pay
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

STOCK

Company	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Amgen	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

U.S. FUTURES

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Mar	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
Apr	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
May	1400	1400	1400	-0.25

Grains

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Mar	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
Apr	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
May	1400	1400	1400	-0.25

Metals

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Mar	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
Apr	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
May	1400	1400	1400	-0.25

Financial

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg.
Mar	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
Apr	1400	1400	1400	-0.25
May	1400	1400	1400	-0.25

Stock Indexes

Month	High	Low	Settle	Chg
-------	------	-----	--------	-----

EUROPE

Deutsche Telekom Moves to Update Its Internet Link

BERLIN — Deutsche Telekom AG announced Thursday plans that could soon give millions of Germans access to the Internet.

Together with a group of companies including International Business Machines Corp. and Microsoft Corp., Telekom has developed software based on Microsoft Windows that makes its archaic Datex-J system more user-friendly.

Datex-J is a text-based computer network that requires its users to type in codes of text to navigate the unwieldy system.

Online services that use a Windows format, allowing users to point at an item and choose it, have become increasingly popular.

The new service, to be called Telekom Online, will offer subscribers German-language computer services ranging from home shopping to online publications, including many of Germany's leading magazines.

There are an estimated 30 million people connected to the Internet, an international web that links computer networks.

Telekom will distribute free software for Telekom Online to all Datex-J users in order to encourage its usage.

Telekom hopes to beat off an invasion of its home market by U.S. online computer services such as CompuServe. The company said it wants to form close

German Quest: Shelf Space

By Miriam Widman
Special to the Herald Tribune

BERLIN — When Werner Kuschla asked a major German supermarket chain whether it would put his company's sausages and cold cuts on its shelves, he was told: "Sure — pay more than 1 million Deutsche marks (\$663,000) and your products will have first priority for shelf space."

"I told them to forget it," said Mr. Kuschla, sales director of Luckenwalder Fleischwaren GmbH, an East German producer. "We don't have that kind of money."

Mr. Kuschla's problem is a common one, say food producers in Eastern Germany who claim their products cannot compete with those of Western producers because of a comparative lack of financial resources and contacts within the countrywide industry.

Buyers for supermarket companies, pointing out that so-called listing fees — upfront payments to retailers to ensure shelf space for products — are required for everyone, insist that no favoritism is shown to West German producers. But those in the East say that a well-established food producer in the West has more money and is in a better position to pay — and to sell products.

Hosted by the European Commission, the ministers will be advised by more than 40 chief executives from technology companies.

German fruit-juice producer, said listing fees of 250,000 DM were commonplace.

And money may be only part of the problem. Mr. Memmert said it was almost impossible for East German producers to get an appointment with a supermarket buyer in the hope of introducing a new product. "I'm still hoping to get my products listed," he said.

Other East German producers have called the system a "supermarket mafia" that caters to richer West German suppliers.

Heinz Fassbender, a director at Rewe AG, a country-wide market chain, said he couldn't think of any measures his company could take to promote East German goods. But he acknowledged that connections were of paramount importance.

Sabine Mielke, a director at

Kleinwort Says Bonds Hurt Profit

LONDON — Kleinwort Benson Securities said Thursday that its pretax profit fell 13 percent as a drop in profit from trading stocks and bonds offset gains in fees from merger and advisory work.

The banking company said it earned £97 million (\$151 million) in the year, down from £111.7 million in 1993. The year-earlier profit included a one-time gain of £9.2 million.

The company raised its 1994 dividend to 21.5 pence a share from 18.5 pence in 1993. But the dividend increase did not overshadow the bottom line for investors, who sent Kleinwort's stock down 8 pence, to 631.

Lord Rockley, chairman of the company, said 1994 had been a successful year given the background of unsettled markets and difficult trading conditions because of a change in interest rate cycles in the United States and Britain.

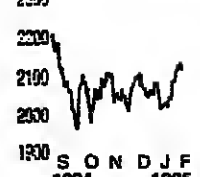
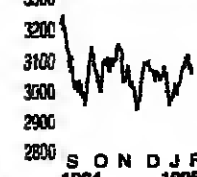
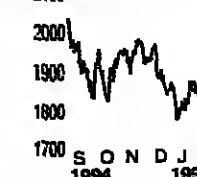
"Although markets have been unsettled, we have achieved an increased share of customer business in all the major equity markets in which we operate," Lord Rockley said.

Kleinwort said income from trading fell to £43.3 million from £104 million in 1993. That drop more than offset an increase in income from fees and commissions, which rose to £310 million from £271.5 million.

Lord Rockley said the environment for trading had not improved so far this year.

"At the moment, it's fair to say that trading conditions and prospects generally are little changed from the latter half of 1994," he said. "What we can actually achieve will depend on the market activity."

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFX)

Investor's Europe				
Frankfurt DAX		London FTSE 100 Index		Paris CAC 40
				
Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	410.09	413.26	-0.77
Brussels	Stock Index	7,082.51	7,095.62	-0.04
Frankfurt	DAX	2,115.72	2,135.04	-0.90
Frankfurt	FAZ	795.81	795.42	+0.05
Helsinki	HEX	1,822.57	1,833.56	-0.60
London	Financial Times 30	2,323.59	2,334.80	-0.48
London	FTSE 100	3,051.10	3,074.90	-0.77
Madrid	General Index	286.15	288.54	-0.83
Milan	MIBTEL	10494	10596	-1.89
Paris	CAC 40	1,835.00	1,861.90	-1.44
Stockholm	SX 16	1,615.24	1,632.32	-1.05
Vienna	ATX Index	976.71	985.47	-0.89
Zurich	SBS	920.57	925.11	-0.49

NYSE

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
IBM	120.00	118.00	119.00	118.50	1,200,000	118.50	117.50	117.50	117.00
Microsoft	65.00	64.00	64.50	64.00	800,000	64.00	63.00	63.00	62.50
Apple	45.00	44.00	44.50	44.00	600,000	44.00	43.00	43.00	42.50
Oracle	35.00	34.00	34.50	34.00	400,000	34.00	33.00	33.00	32.50
Sun	25.00	24.00	24.50	24.00	300,000	24.00	23.00	23.00	22.50
Novell	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.00	200,000	14.00	13.00	13.00	12.50
Lotus	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	150,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Intuit	8.00	7.00	7.50	7.00	100,000	7.00	6.00	6.00	5.50
Parsons	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.00	50,000	4.00	3.00	3.00	2.50
Unisys	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	30,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
WorldCom	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	20,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
Verizon	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	10,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
AT&T	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.00	1,500,000	14.00	13.00	13.00	12.50
Verizon	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	1,200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Sprint	8.00	7.00	7.50	7.00	1,000,000	7.00	6.00	6.00	5.50
WorldCom	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.00	800,000	5.00	4.00	4.00	3.50
Qwest	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.00	600,000	3.00	2.00	2.00	1.50
Southwest	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	400,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Delta	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	300,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
American	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	200,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10
United	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.25	100,000	0.25	0.10	0.10	0.05
JetBlue	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.10	50,000	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.02

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
Boeing	120.00	118.00	119.00	118.50	1,200,000	118.50	117.50	117.50	117.00
Lockheed	80.00	78.00	79.00	78.50	800,000	78.50	77.50	77.50	77.00
Raytheon	60.00	58.00	59.00	58.50	600,000	58.50	57.50	57.50	57.00
Northrop	40.00	38.00	39.00	38.50	400,000	38.50	37.50	37.50	37.00
Grumman	20.00	18.00	19.00	18.50	300,000	18.50	17.50	17.50	17.00
Boeing	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Lockheed	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.00	150,000	4.00	3.00	3.00	2.50
Raytheon	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	100,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Northrop	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	50,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
Grumman	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	30,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
General Electric	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.00	1,500,000	14.00	13.00	13.00	12.50
Westinghouse	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	1,200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Lockheed Martin	8.00	7.00	7.50	7.00	1,000,000	7.00	6.00	6.00	5.50
Boeing	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.00	800,000	5.00	4.00	4.00	3.50
Raytheon	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.00	600,000	3.00	2.00	2.00	1.50
Northrop	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	400,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Grumman	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	300,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
Boeing	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	200,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10
Lockheed	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.25	100,000	0.25	0.10	0.10	0.05
Raytheon	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.10	50,000	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.02

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
Boeing	120.00	118.00	119.00	118.50	1,200,000	118.50	117.50	117.50	117.00
Lockheed	80.00	78.00	79.00	78.50	800,000	78.50	77.50	77.50	77.00
Raytheon	60.00	58.00	59.00	58.50	600,000	58.50	57.50	57.50	57.00
Northrop	40.00	38.00	39.00	38.50	400,000	38.50	37.50	37.50	37.00
Grumman	20.00	18.00	19.00	18.50	300,000	18.50	17.50	17.50	17.00
Boeing	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Lockheed	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.00	150,000	4.00	3.00	3.00	2.50
Raytheon	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	100,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Northrop	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	50,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
Grumman	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	30,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
Boeing	120.00	118.00	119.00	118.50	1,200,000	118.50	117.50	117.50	117.00
Lockheed	80.00	78.00	79.00	78.50	800,000	78.50	77.50	77.50	77.00
Raytheon	60.00	58.00	59.00	58.50	600,000	58.50	57.50	57.50	57.00
Northrop	40.00	38.00	39.00	38.50	400,000	38.50	37.50	37.50	37.00
Grumman	20.00	18.00	19.00	18.50	300,000	18.50	17.50	17.50	17.00
Boeing	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Lockheed	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.00	150,000	4.00	3.00	3.00	2.50
Raytheon	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	100,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Northrop	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	50,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
Grumman	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	30,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
IBM	120.00	118.00	119.00	118.50	1,200,000	118.50	117.50	117.50	117.00
Microsoft	65.00	64.00	64.50	64.00	800,000	64.00	63.00	63.00	62.50
Apple	45.00	44.00	44.50	44.00	600,000	44.00	43.00	43.00	42.50
Oracle	35.00	34.00	34.50	34.00	400,000	34.00	33.00	33.00	32.50
Sun	25.00	24.00	24.50	24.00	300,000	24.00	23.00	23.00	22.50
Novell	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.00	200,000	14.00	13.00	13.00	12.50
Lotus	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	150,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Intuit	8.00	7.00	7.50	7.00	100,000	7.00	6.00	6.00	5.50
Parsons	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.00	50,000	4.00	3.00	3.00	2.50
Unisys	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	30,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
AT&T	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.00	1,500,000	14.00	13.00	13.00	12.50
Verizon	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	1,200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Sprint	8.00	7.00	7.50	7.00	1,000,000	7.00	6.00	6.00	5.50
WorldCom	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.00	800,000	5.00	4.00	4.00	3.50
Qwest	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.00	600,000	3.00	2.00	2.00	1.50
Southwest	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	400,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Delta	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	300,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
American	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	200,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10
United	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.25	100,000	0.25	0.10	0.10	0.05
JetBlue	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.10	50,000	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.02

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
General Electric	15.00	14.00	14.50	14.00	1,500,000	14.00	13.00	13.00	12.50
Westinghouse	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	1,200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Lockheed Martin	8.00	7.00	7.50	7.00	1,000,000	7.00	6.00	6.00	5.50
Boeing	6.00	5.00	5.50	5.00	800,000	5.00	4.00	4.00	3.50
Raytheon	4.00	3.00	3.50	3.00	600,000	3.00	2.00	2.00	1.50
Northrop	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	400,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Grumman	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	300,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
Boeing	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	200,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10
Lockheed	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.25	100,000	0.25	0.10	0.10	0.05
Raytheon	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.10	50,000	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.02

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
Boeing	120.00	118.00	119.00	118.50	1,200,000	118.50	117.50	117.50	117.00
Lockheed	80.00	78.00	79.00	78.50	800,000	78.50	77.50	77.50	77.00
Raytheon	60.00	58.00	59.00	58.50	600,000	58.50	57.50	57.50	57.00
Northrop	40.00	38.00	39.00	38.50	400,000	38.50	37.50	37.50	37.00
Grumman	20.00	18.00	19.00	18.50	300,000	18.50	17.50	17.50	17.00
Boeing	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Lockheed	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.00	150,000	4.00	3.00	3.00	2.50
Raytheon	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	100,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Northrop	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	50,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
Grumman	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	30,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Volume	High	Low	Open	Close
Boeing	120.00	118.00	119.00	118.50	1,200,000	118.50	117.50	117.50	117.00
Lockheed	80.00	78.00	79.00	78.50	800,000	78.50	77.50	77.50	77.00
Raytheon	60.00	58.00	59.00	58.50	600,000	58.50	57.50	57.50	57.00
Northrop	40.00	38.00	39.00	38.50	400,000	38.50	37.50	37.50	37.00
Grumman	20.00	18.00	19.00	18.50	300,000	18.50	17.50	17.50	17.00
Boeing	10.00	9.00	9.50	9.00	200,000	9.00	8.00	8.00	7.50
Lockheed	5.00	4.00	4.50	4.00	150,000	4.00	3.00	3.00	2.50
Raytheon	3.00	2.00	2.50	2.00	100,000	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.50
Northrop	2.00	1.00	1.50	1.00	50,000	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25
Grumman	1.00	0.50	0.75	0.50	30,000	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.10

1

هكذا من الاصل

England's Likely to Keep Championships, but Soccer's Losing a War

LONDON — England apparently will be allowed to keep the European Championships in 1996, which implies the escalation of a certain kind of war. It was declared by the English hooligans who injured more than 50 people Wednesday night in Dublin, who ripped benches out of the stands and rained them onto those sitting below to ruin the England-Ireland friendly after 27 minutes.

Their declaration is an end to itself. Their actions don't bear logic; so, as satisfying as it feels to call them "idiots" and "morons," that kind of response is probably even more satisfying to them. It's all about provoking a response. They love a fight more than anything, and names will never hurt them.

The disaster arose from the visitors' upper tier of the West Stand at Lansdowne Road minutes after Ireland had struck a 1-0 lead, and the first reaction was to retreat. The Dutch referee, Denis Jol, called off the match, while horrified commentators quickly considered whether England was deserving or capable of hosting the European Championships next year. The referee's decision shouldn't be debated: One more innocent person should not have been hurt for

the sake of putting a brave face on a sport whose own apparent breakdowns in organization helped to foster the worst behavior in the worst people.

The valid question of England's ability to host the world's second-biggest soccer tournament was quashed, typically, by Joël Havelange, president of FIFA, the international soccer federation. The decision actually belongs to UEFA, the European federation, which is awaiting reports from the English and Irish football associations.

"England does not deserve, because of a localized problem, to have a sporting right withdrawn," Havelange said Thursday from Zurich. He appeared almost angry that he had to deal with such questions. "FIFA only deals with the field," he said. "I don't have the wherewithal to go down to the stadium and check all these people. If it happens on the pitch then it's football's problem."

So doubts haven't been resurrected that England can provide safe haven for the game and all of its supporters?

"On the U.K. front, the answer is negative," Havelange said. "Everything can be handled." Just like that.

The Irish sports minister, Bernard Allen, won't be appeased so easily. He asked, "How can people from Ireland and from other countries go to England and

expect to be safe watching matches in the presence of people like those who were here tonight?"

There's often no reasoning with people in power. Their sensibilities tend to be self-serving. Of course it's true that those who celebrated the stoppage of an England match for the first time — another sad milestone — cannot really be fans of the game. It's just as true that they attend matches because of all the popularity from which the game profits: for the large and emotional crowds, easily swayed; for the confrontation with the foreign countries they regard as enemy; for the stage they can occasionally steal from the world's athletic celebrities; for the instantaneous media exposure. All of this allows a few hundred yobs to blemish the face of a nation.

(Just as true, they represent a mood within their nation.)

If there were any other stage better suited to their cries, they would ditch soccer in a moment. They were at Lansdowne Road just as surely as Havelange sees himself as some sort of global emperor.

There would be more reason to believe in the game's best traits if its leader said he was going to do everything he could to set a good example. Obviously, setting a good example is the game's only resort beyond the last-ditch measures of security in the stadiums.

Everyone worries about the innocent victims, in-

jured for supporting the game that profits from them. But it is hard to feel sympathy for the insultation of English soccer in these days when its own player — probably its best player — attacks and attempts to injure the very people who reward his ability. The men who run the game value Eric Cantona's talent above all else. By insinuation they question the motives of the supporter and, more openly, the TV reporter who "provoked" him. They sympathize with Cantona and support him through this difficult time, and in so doing they loosen the standards for what should be acceptable behavior.

CANTONA's recent outbursts did not create the environment of Wednesday night. Rather, his violent actions were borne from that environment. Last week, 11 police officers were injured in the club riot at the Chelsea ground in London. Cantona did not cause these problems. The problem is the frazzled message sent by soccer's understanding and support for someone like him.

The captain of England's national team, David Platt, tried to reason with his supporters in Dublin, but they responded by throwing a bench at him. "Just two weeks ago English football was being held up as an example to the Italians on how to curb violence," said Platt, who plays for Sampdoria. "I now have to go back to Italy and face the same journalists who wrote that."

So long as the English are going to be competing in Euro '96, the best option is probably that they play in England, where police have been educated and stadiums have been renovated in response to the tragedies of the 1980s.

Warnings of English violence were met by a huge show of security in Dublin, in light of the British-Irish negotiations over Northern Ireland; but it seems now that ancient Lansdowne Road was suited for the riot, with its narrow aisles preventing the police from overwhelming the English supporters. The English are not required to show their passports when entering Ireland, but officials on both sides are asking how 4,000 English were in the stadium when only 2,000 tickets had reportedly been made available to them. There was reportedly little separation between the host and visiting supporters.

"No surrender to the IRA," the English were chanting. Some were said to be members of the extremist National Front; some were giving Nazi salutes. It is said that the most effective English hooligans are now approaching middle age, which means they know all the tricks.

They have put the pressure on England to police itself against itself once more. If real fans were wondering which team will win the 1996 championship, they will now be worrying more about their own safety. But that's not Joël Havelange's problem.

FA Asks Fans To Turn In The 'Thugs'

LONDON — "True fans" were urged Thursday by England's Football Association to help identify those responsible for Wednesday night's trouble.

"We are making a major effort to identify those at the heart of the trouble," said David Davies, the FA's director of public affairs. "Many of them were recognizable from newspaper photographs or television stills."

The FA has set up a special free phone line, Davies said, and added: "We urge true football supporters to ring if they can help."

"We will be asking every club involved in matches this weekend to repeat this appeal and we trust the Irish law will be used to its limits to punish those involved last night."

"We will do everything in our powers to banish those who disgraced themselves and the nation they purport to represent."

Prime Minister John Major, in a letter to Prime Minister John Bruton of Ireland, apologized for the "inexcusable and thuggish" behavior by the English at the match.

"They were a disgrace and an embarrassment," wrote Major, himself a keen soccer fan.



The pain, the rage: An injured spectator (left) at the match in Dublin was treated on the field as, in the stands, police wrestled with a member of the English contingent. Police said they had arrested about 40 people from England and three from Ireland, and 40 people had been treated at a hospital for injuries, one a fractured skull. An Irish man in his 60s died of a heart attack while leaving the stadium, although this was not thought to be related to the violence, police said.

Graf Given a Fight, but Defeats Young Hingis

PARIS — Steffi Graf, in the second match of her comeback from injuries, defeated 14-year-old prodigy Martina Hingis in a quarterfinal Thursday at the Paris Open.

Although Graf won, 6-2, 6-3, and in 61 minutes, the young Czech player, who lives in Switzerland, was tougher than the score indicated in her first match against the German star.

Graf controlled the pace, hitting forehand winners at key points. However, Hingis was able to stay in the match by taking advantage of Graf's weaker back-

hand and occasionally hitting winners of her own.

Graf took the first set, which she opened with an ace, in 26 minutes. The only time she was in trouble was in the first game, when two double faults gave Hingis a break point. But two forehand winners and an ace erased that and gave Graf the game.

Hingis stiffened her defense and even broke serve to go ahead, 1-0, in the second set with the help of two consecutive backhand errors by Graf. But Graf broke right back to even it at 1-1.

Still, each game was a struggle. There were several more service breaks, includ-

Sydney 95 Deals Blow to French Hopes

SAN DIEGO — Sydney 95, with a new head sail, a modified keel and its third helmsman in as many rounds, opened the third round-robin of the America's Cup challenger trials with a 38-second victory that considerably boosted its prospects but sent France 3 staggering into next-to-last place.

In another upset, America3, with its all-women crew still sailing Bill Koch's 1992 Cup-defending boat, outlasted Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes by 1 minute, 26 seconds Wednesday. All three of the women's victories have come in the first race of a defense round.

With ideal winds of 8 to 12 knots, Team New Zealand sailed its Black Magic — unbeaten in 13 races except by a protest — to a steady, 1:16 triumph over Nippon while NZL 39 had no trouble disposing of winless Rioja de España by 2:30.

Sydney 95 had been given up on as a contender earlier, but its owner, Syd Fischer, brought Cup veteran Colin Beashel aboard to drive his boat this round. Match racing expert Neville Witty returned to steer and call tactics, which allowed Michael Coxon to return to coordinating sails, much to his relief. After Fischer fired Chris

Law, Coxon drove the boat in the second round.

It was only Sydney 95's fourth victory in 13 races, but with points escalating to four per victory in the third round, the boat is in fifth place, only two points out of the critical fourth berth in the semifinals starting March 18. The two New Zealand entries are first and second, followed by one Australia and Nippon.

"In breeze like today's, this boat comes alive," Beashel said.

Fischer contacted Beashel on his recent trip home to Sydney and persuaded him to join the team. Beashel had sailed on an International America's Cup Class boat only once before, in practice earlier this week. His last America's Cup action was in 1986-87 off Fremantle, West-

ern Australia, when he was the skipper for Alan Bond's Australia IV. It lost in the defender final to Iain Murray's Kookaburra III.

"These are a lot more maneuverable than 12-Meters, with a lot more horsepower," Beashel said.

French prospects appeared bleak. Their cause had been advanced little with the introduction of France 3, their second new boat, to the previous round, and its skipper, Marc Pajot, said, "It's a race we couldn't afford to lose."

His next three are against Team New Zealand, one Australia and Chris Dickson's NZL 39.

The Sydney 95-France 3 match was the closest of the day.

Old Track Record Falls, Belatedly

ERFURT, Germany — Lyubov Kremlova of Russia has broken one of the oldest indoor world records by clocking 2 minutes, 34.18 seconds over 1,000 meters.

Kremlova set the record at a meet here in eastern Germany on Wednesday night, but the organizers were not aware until Thursday that she had broken the mark of 2:34.8 that was set by Brigitte Kraus of Germany in 1978.

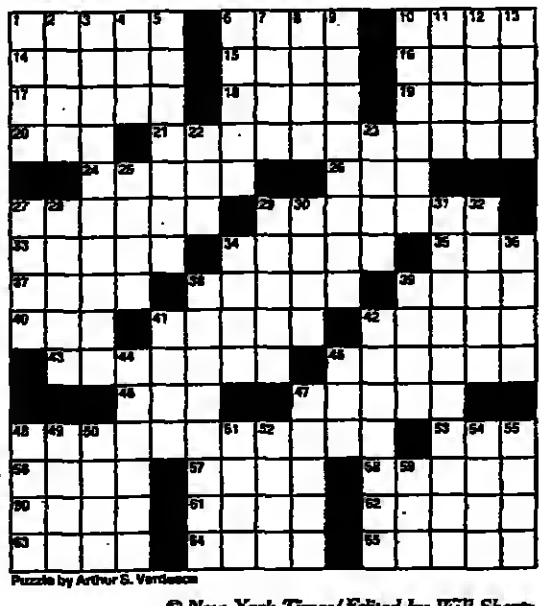
At the same meet in Erfurt, Sun Caiyun of China set her fifth indoor pole vault record in less than three weeks by clearing 4.15 meters (13 feet, 7 1/4 inches).

He put the women to the test by forcing 41 tacks on the first beat, hoping to grind them down. It didn't work, partly because of a temporary winch problem on Stars & Stripes and partly because of the women's improving performance.

"The question of whether women are strong enough is no longer an issue," said Stephanie Pierson, the mainsail grinder.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Finance
 - Tire
 - Trick
 - "There!"
 - Plenty
 - Bay
 - Patron saint of Norway
 - Mississippi quartet
 - Neil portrayer in a 1984 movie
 - With 46-Across, a successor to Buster Crabbe
 - Life
 - Schoenberg's works
 - Anomalous
 - Daily role
 - Recoiled
 - Time-worn
 - Divic
 - organization
 - Manilow's "It Be Magic"
 - Group of turtles
 - Recurve
 - Cook squash, perhaps
 - Early tennis star
 - Hill Jacobs
 - Nerve impulse point
 - Aristocracy
 - See 26-Across
 - Afflict suddenly
 - Cattlemen?
 - Magic org.
 - Triceps
 - Superior
 - Tribal leader
 - Quechua
 - French chef's dish
 - Tuscan city
 - Marquess or viscount
 - Like — of bricks
 - Dangerously seductive
 - Toll-free part of the week
 - Ignominy
 - Kind of shirt
 - Workers' purchase arrangement, for short
 - Disseminated
 - Herr Goethe
 - Got down
 - Alto
 - excellence
 - Trouble
 - Artery
 - A good deal of binary code
 - Tourist city near Nimes
 - "On the Beach" author
 - Roofing item
 - Guidance counselor?
 - "Oklahoma!"
 - Bygone coins
 - Gainsay
 - Largest living rodent
 - Auto pioneer
 - Polio pioneer
 - Dona Duke, e.g.
 - Sweet drink
 - Pow horse command
 - Flock of wild fowl
 - Send
 - Prong
 - It ever
 - Radix, botanically
 - Zip about
 - Nota
 - Flaherty's "Man O' War"
 - Wheeks per annum



Solution to Puzzle of Feb. 16

ARGALLI GOWARD
CUEBALLS OPERER
INTAGLIO MADAMA
DAW EMPYOR PAM
STEAM PHI YEREA
ALLOW IND ASKS
BUTHERSPIT
HECTARE
ANYTHINGGOES
PIWA SOC EARTH
INAPT BAT LEMAR
POT HOSTEL APE
PIETAS EXAMINES
TIGUANA SYDOODU
PIORITER SICILIPS

INTERDEAN
INTERNATIONAL MOVERS
FOR A FREE ESTIMATE CALL
PARIS (1) 39201400

ESORTS & GUIDES

BELGRAVIA ORCHIDS
LONDON PARIS GENEVA ZURICH
Escort Agency Credit Cards Welcome
Tel: 071-394 6513
UK 071 589 5237

ELITE Escort Service
NEW YORK CITY
1-800-464-6667

INTERNATIONAL ESCORTS
Service - Worldwide
Tel: 212-667-7215 New York, USA
Major Credit Cards Accepted

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED

(Continued From Page 4)

CHATELAIN ESCORT SERVICE
51 Boulevard de la Chapelle, Paris 75018
Tel: 01-46 61 6113

LONDON BRAZILIAN Escort
Service 071 724 5971/1 - credit cards

ELITE ESCORT SERVICE
Escort Service, Credit cards accepted.
Tel: 071 / 43 53 32

GENEVA & BASEL ESCORT SERVICE
Escort agency - 022/246 00 80
ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
CHICAGO & NEW YORK
COSMOPOLITAN ESCORT SERVICE
Chicago Tel: 312/339-1110
New York Tel: 212/753-9739

ZURICH & BASEL ESCORT SERVICE
Escort Service, Credit cards accepted.
Tel: 071/43 53 32

PARIS & LONDON ESCORT SERVICE
Escort Service, Credit cards accepted.
Tel: 01-46 61 6113

VIENNA & BASEL ESCORT SERVICE
Escort agency - 022/246 00 80
ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
CHICAGO & NEW YORK
COSMOPOLITAN ESCORT SERVICE
Chicago Tel: 312/339-1110
New York Tel: 212/753-9739

ZURICH & BASEL ESCORT SERVICE
Escort Service, Credit cards accepted.
Tel: 071/43 53 32

PARIS & LONDON ESCORT SERVICE
Escort Service, Credit cards accepted.
Tel: 01-46 61 6113

AMSTERDAM DREAMS ESCORT

Dinner dates & escorted guide service.
Tel: +31 (0)20 614 02 11 / 64 02 666
LONDON ESCORT SERVICE
Tel: 071 722 5000 Credit Cards
0224-201513

VIENNA & BASEL ESCORT SERVICE
Escort agency - 022/246 00 80
ALL CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
CHICAGO & NEW YORK
COSMOPOLITAN ESCORT SERVICE
Chicago Tel: 312/339-1110
New York Tel: 212/753-9739

ZURICH & BASEL ESCORT SERVICE
Escort Service, Credit cards accepted.
Tel: 071/43 53 32

TO OUR READERS

IN HOLLAND

It's never been easier to subscribe

and save. Just call toll-free:

06 022 51 58

